The Long Island FISHERMAN

50¢

The Largest Weekly Fishing Magazine in the United States!

March 15th, 1979 ★ Volume 14, Number 11 ★ 14th Year of Publishing ★ FIFTY-CENTS

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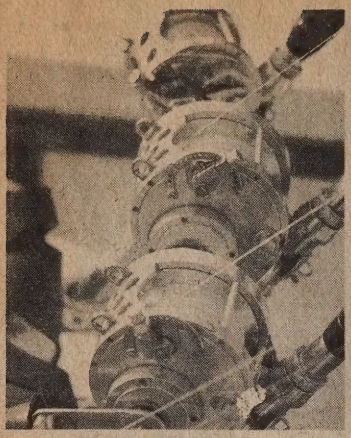
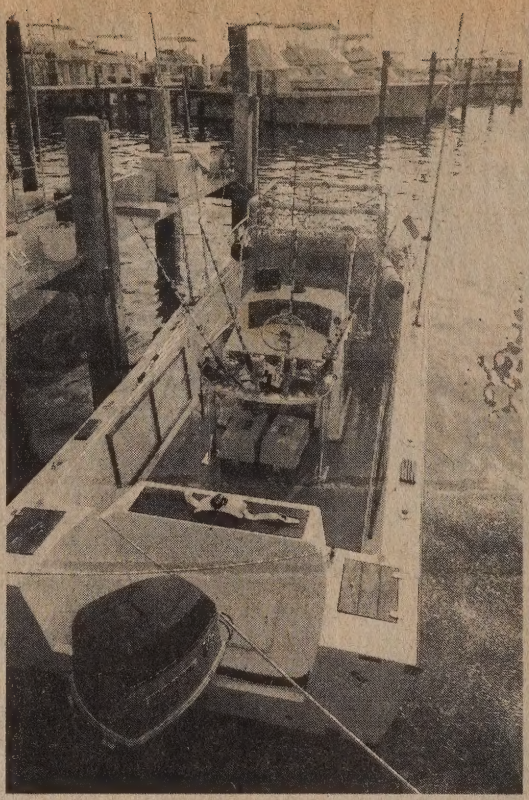
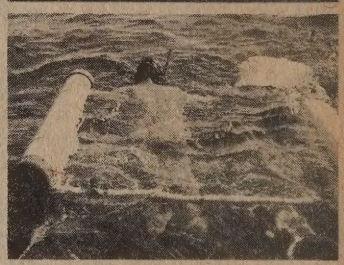
TEN SURF TIPS







Mako Produces Film on Shark Tagging

Mako Marine produced a 22 minute color film on Shark tagging, at Walker's Cay in the Bahamas. The purpose of this film is twofold. First, to educate the angler on why and how to tag sharks. Secondly, to show how today's new breed of fisherman are running great distances in small boats, to catch large fish. The film is being used by marine biologists in their shark tagging and research programs. You'll enjoy the film, both from it's educational value, as well as from it's excellent underwater footage. The film is free to fishing, and conservation and other interested groups. We only ask you to return it as soon as you are through.

Mako is the largest builder in the world of center console fishing boats. Mako takes fishing and all aspects of the sport very seriously. We hope you enjoy the film. For information, write Mako or see a Mako dealer.

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

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COMING NEXT WEEK:
Caring for the Catch

About the Cover—

A pair of pool winners aboard the "North Star," nice fish by anyone's standards. See the article "One Week Every Spring" on page 20.

Richard Reina — PUBLISHER
Scott Simons — MANAGING EDITOR
Dr. Wm. A. Muller — EDITOR
Al Ristori — CONSERVATION EDITOR
Stu Miller — ADVERTISING MANAGER
Pete Barrett — NEW JERSEY EDITOR
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MAKO
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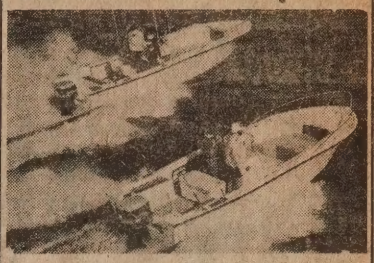

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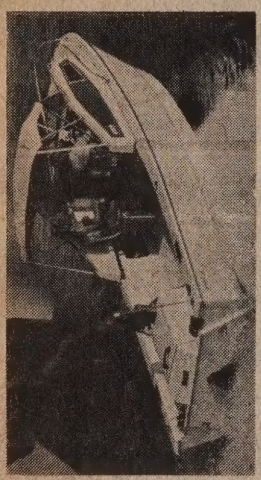

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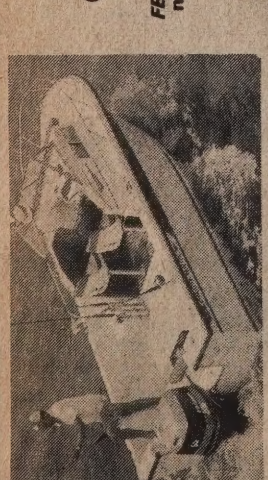

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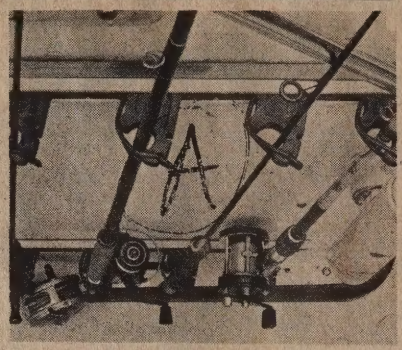
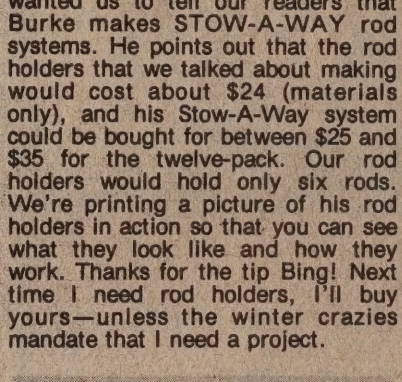
New Products



ROD HOLDERS BY BURKE FISHING LURES

We received a nice letter the other day from Bing McClellan, President of Burke, in response to a recent series on making rod holders. He wanted us to tell our readers that Burke makes STOW-A-WAY rod systems. He points out that the rod holders that we talked about making would cost about $24 (materials only), and his Stow-A-Way system could be bought for between $25 and $35 for the twelve-pack. Our rod holders would hold only six rods. We're printing a picture of his rod holders in action so that you can see what they look like and how they work. Thanks for the tip Bing! Next time I need rod holders, I'll buy yours—unless the winter crazies mandate that I need a project.



NEW HIGH SPEED ULTRA-LIGHT SPINFISHER FROM PENN

Penn has added another reel to their rapidly expanding Spinfisher line of fresh and saltwater spinning reels.

The latest addition is the new #716 Ultralight, the lightest and smallest spinning reel Penn has ever manufactured. Weighing just 8.5 oz., with a high speed gear ratio of 5.1 to 1, the #716 Spinfisher provides casting accuracy even with 1/4 oz. lures and 4 to 6 lb. lines.

Other features include stainless steel ball bearings and gears, push-button locking spool with Teflon and stainless steel multi-drag system, and an approximate line capacity of 225 yards, 4 lb. mono.

The new Ultralight #716 is one of 11 open-faced spinning reels in Penn's Spinfisher line, which also includes two skirted spool designs—750SS and 650SS.

For a free color catalog on the complete Penn line of Spinfisher reels, baitcasting, and heavy duty game fish tournament reels, write: Penn Reels, 3028 W. Hunting Park Ave., Dept. P., Philadelphia, PA 19132.

ANGLING EXPERTS REVEAL TECHNIQUES IN NEW PORK RIND FISHING FOLDER

Seven of America's leading angling experts have combined their fishing expertise in one easy-to-use folder entitled, "**How to Fish Pork Rind in Freshwater.**"

This new guide, published by the Uncle Josh Bait Company, is loaded with factual, no-nonsense, proven pork rind fishing techniques developed by the experts over a period of many years. For easy reference, the folder is divided into sections for each of the popular freshwater species. Detailed fishing methods are described for each species with line illustrations showing various pork rind/artificial lure combinations.

Billy Westmorland, America's Number One smallmouth angler, shares his smallmouth fishing methods developed over a thirty-year period. Al Lindner, famous walleye expert, tells of proven techniques that will help catch more walleyes. Professional fisherman, Dick Collier and Outdoor Writer, Bob McNally, provide helpful tips on taking largemouth bass from deep and shallow waters. Veteran fisherman and professional guide, Max Eggleston shows how striped bass can be conquered. Outdoor Writer and Oregon's Big Fish Champ, Stan Fagerstrom includes his proven methods for taking panfish and, finally, tackle expert Bill Cullerton provides specific information on tackling the great northern pike.

The folder is designed to help broaden pork rind fishing techniques for beginners, as well as advanced fishermen in all parts of the country. It will fit inside a tackle box and is available to anyone interested. Please send $.25 to Freshwater Guide, Uncle Josh Bait Company, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538.

"I PUT MY MARINER THROUGH A TEST THEY DON'T RECOMMEND AT THE FACTORY."

"I had the motor just three weeks when I lost it in Mobile Bay. After six weeks in saltwater, it came up in a shrimp trawl.

"I took it back to the marina where I bought it, and they had it running the next day. The thing that amazed me was that they didn't have to put one new part on the motor. It runs just perfect."

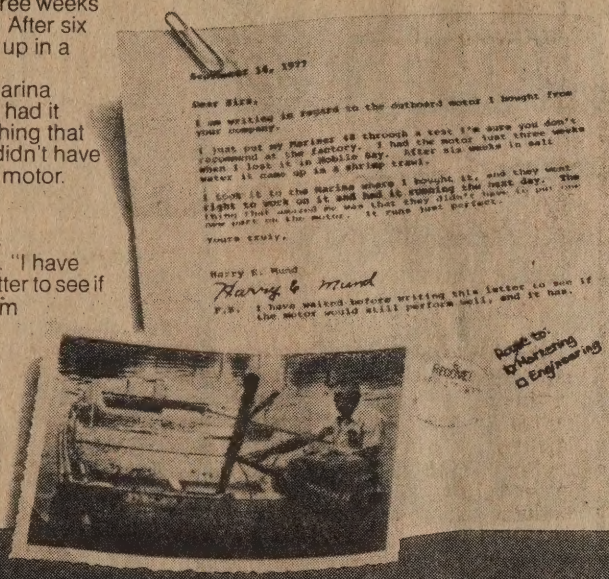
Harry E. Mund,
Robertsdale, Alabama.

Then Harry adds a P.S. "I have waited before writing this letter to see if the motor would still perform well, and it has."

We don't recommend the Harry Mund six week saltwater submersion test. And we don't claim another brand of motor wouldn't have survived it. But it is a fact that Mariner outboards have proven themselves on four continents, and they're making big waves in the U.S.

As the motors are getting around, so is the word. Mariner outboards *are* better in the long run.

A card to Dept. LI3 at the address below will bring you a catalog describing Mariners from 2 to 175 horsepower. And, an authenticated Mariner tale of your own which we use in advertising will get you $200.


September 14, 1977
Dear Sirs,
I am writing in regard to the outboard motor I bought from your company.
I just put my Mariner 48 through a test I'm sure you don't recommend at the factory. I had the motor just three weeks when I lost it in Mobile Bay. After six weeks in salt water it came up in a shrimp trawl.
I took it to the Marina where I bought it, and they went right to work on it and had it running the next day. The thing that amazed me was that they didn't have to put one new part on the motor. It runs just perfect.
Yours truly,
Harry E. Mund
Harry E. Mund
P.S. I have waited before writing this letter to see if the motor would still perform well, and it has.

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A BRUNSWICK COMPANY
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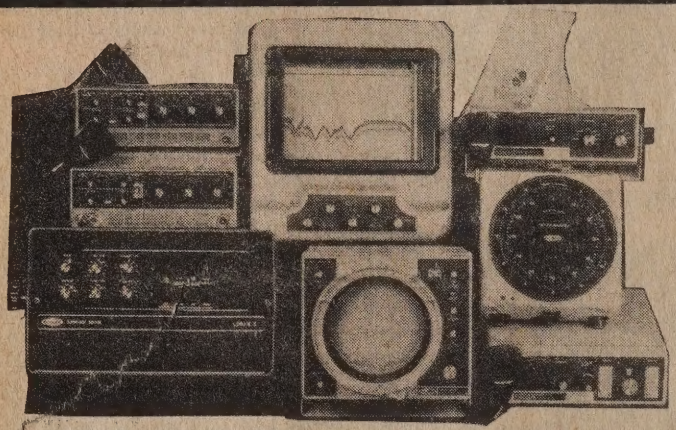
Raytheon. Total commitment to men who fish for a living.



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Mariners Pathfinder® radars, RDF's, ADF's, radiotelephones, Loran-C with lat/long, loudhailers, recording or direct read-out Fathometer® depth sounders/fish finders . . . all Raytheon electronics are designed and torture-tested to perform in the toughest of all marine environments—aboard your fishing boat.

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A Raytheon system saves you money.

With so many proven Raytheon models to choose from, you never have to buy more performance than you need . . . or less than required.

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Ray-1210 SSB radiotelephone—65-watt punch out to 500 miles, 2 to 4-mHz, 8 simplex or semi-duplex channels.

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All Raytheon Marine products have a two-year limited parts warranty plus one-year free on-board service within 50 miles of any of our 210 U.S. dealers and world-wide service network in major ports everywhere.

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Pass It On...

GRIFFITH HOSTS ELECTRONICS SEMINAR

A one-day seminar on the operation of marine electronics gear for northeastern fishermen and power-boat owners with nine guest expert lecturers will be conducted March 21 aboard the eighty-five foot Catamaran "Ebb Tide II" at City Island, N.Y., and on the waters of Long Island Sound by Griffith Marine Navigation, Inc., of New Rochelle, N.Y.—yacht and commercial marine electronics specialists for over 15 years.

Jim Chapman, Griffith President, and John Schebendach, Yacht Division Sales Manager, will host the educational program, which will include cocktails and lunch aboard and a four-hour demonstration cruise on the Sound. Attendance is only by advance registration due to limited space. Reservations must be made by phoning Schebendach at (914) 636-4340. Maximum attendance is 100 persons.

The curriculum will include lectures, discussion and operating demonstrations on fish finders, depth recorders and sonar; gyro compasses; VHF and single side-band radio; radar; loran; alarm systems, and auto pilots.

Guest lecturers expected to attend are: Chick Coombs, Pleasantville, NJ, Furuno recorders and radar; Walt Perlowski, Armonk, NY, Simrad loran and recorders; Roger Brauer, Brooklyn, NY, Sperry gyro compasses; Larry Anderson, Manchester, NH, Raytheon recorders and radar; Dave Spencer, Seattle, WA, Wesmar sonar and auto pilots; Jerry Hacker, New Rochelle, NY Seaboard Electronics alarm systems; Ted Bodtmann, Bricktown, NJ, Si-Tex recorders and loran, and Charles Malakidis, Bedford, MA, Northstar-Digital loran.

On-board registration is at 9AM, rain or shine, with the program to commence at 9:30. The dockside morning sessions will include a discussion of the agenda and lectures on recorders, gyro compasses, and VHF-SSB radio.

At Noon, the "Ebb Tide II" under Captain Joe Ferrara will put to sea for cocktails and luncheon followed by the balance of the program: radar, loran, alarm systems, and auto pilots, concluding with a review and return to dock at 4PM.

Ebb Tide II is a fast, diesel-powered aluminum Catamaran fishing party vessel with a 32' beam, which can accommodate 100 persons in its heated main cabin, where the lectures will be conducted. Operating electronic gear will be setup in the classroom and in the wheel-

Grady-White.

Tough on fish. Easy on fishermen.

A cabin that's easy to get around when you get offshore.
Two things are vital to fishermen when miles offshore. Plenty of room for fighting fish, and shelter in case you have to fight the weather. Grady-White gives you both in our line of "walkaround" cabin boats.

Our extremely large cockpit gives your party fishfighting room without being crowded. And, the "walkaround" cabin lets you move out of the weather or around the bow with ease. The protection of windshield, top, and side curtains is there when you need it. It's the sensible addition of comfort and safety in a hard-nosed fishing machine.

Everything a boat can do to help catch fish.
Grady-White boats are every foot made for fishermen. Built-in standard features like full fiberglass liners, insulated fish boxes with overboard drains, self-bailing cockpits, rod racks, and large storage compartments, all designed to minimize clutter and help you get away from the dock faster. Available options such as outriggers and rod holders can help you catch more fish. When you get off to go fishing, Grady-White makes it easier to do.

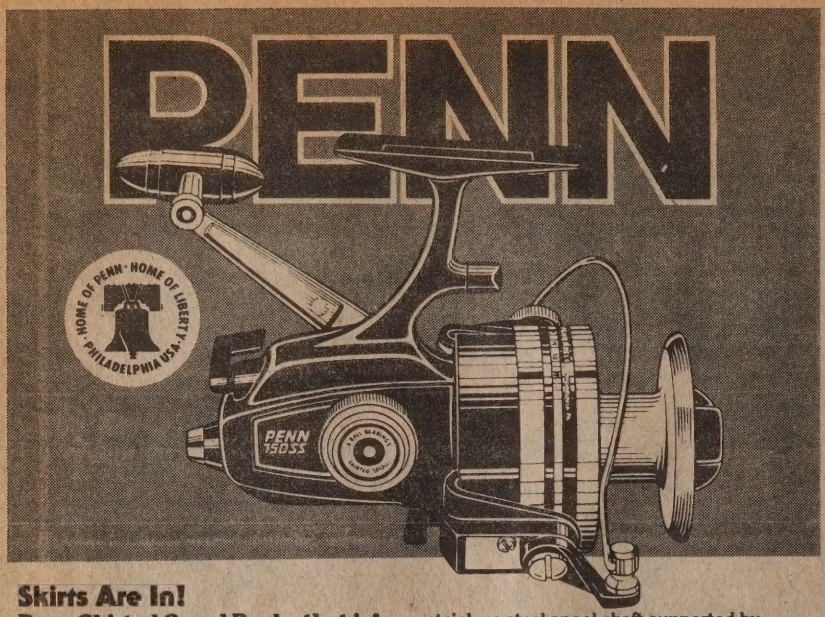
See your Grady-White dealer's line of comfortable fishing machines.
Grady-White has a full line of comfortable fishing machines like the 254 Kingfish pictured here. From 20 to 25 feet. In stern drive and outboards. All built solid, in the North Carolina tradition. If you're a person who's interested in offshore fishing, but not interested in taking a lot of punishment, Grady-White builds boats for you. Visit your Grady-White dealer.

The comfortable fishing machine.

GRADY-WHITE BOATS

P.O. Box 1527, Greenville, N.C. 27834

Visit Your Grady White dealer



Skirts Are In!

Penn Skirted Spool Reels, that is! Four Great Models. Whether for striper, bass, trout or billfish, Penn has a skirted beauty to take your favorite sportfish to task. To work those lures in fast, Models 750SS (shown) & 650SS feature fast 4.6 to 1 and 4.8 to 1 gear ratios respectively while their lighter cousins, Models 550SS and 450SS* sport super fast 5.1 to 1 retrieves. Large capacity, tangle-free gold anodized spool with line capacity chart holds more line so you get maximum distance in every cast. Features a stainless steel spool shaft supported by three bronze bushings for the ultimate in strength and three ball bearings...a Penn exclusive. Right or left hand option.

Send for 1979 Color Catalog!

To help defray postage and handling, send 50¢ for full color 1979 Penn Catalog or pick up your FREE copy at your local tackle dealer. Penn Reels, 3028 W. Hunting Park Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19132.

PENN REELS®

Browning Silaflex II saltwater rods are gluttons for punishment. These fiberglass rods can take anything that jigging, jetty, trolling, popping and bottom fishing can dish out.

Why? Because every Silaflex II fiberglass rod is born in Browning's high pressure autoclaves. Here high pressures produce a blank with a smooth surface, free of weakening voids and excess resins. Heavy sanding that could break delicate surface fibers is not needed. Browning gives you a thin-wall, lightweight rod with a finely tuned action and all the strength of a heavier rod.

If you want your rod to have the best blank possible, whether fiberglass, graphite or boron, try a Browning rod. Browning rods are priced competitively at authorized Browning dealers.

TOUGHEST ROD A SALTWATER FISH WILL MEET.

Conventional tape-wrap process leaves spiral ridges (right) which are usually sanded off. Browning autoclave produces a smooth, Hi-Density blank (left).

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house.

In making the announcement of this special educational program for fishermen and boat owners, Chapman said: "Griffith is delighted to be able to bring together so many electronics experts to explain and demonstrate the type of gear necessary to successful fishing and cruising today. It is geared to the serious seafarer, a real 'graduate school' seminar for those who want to enhance their knowledge of marine electronics."

"This is a pioneering venture for Griffith," Schebendach added, "and if it proves successful, we hope to stage other similar sessions for sailors and powerboat owners in the future." He stressed the absolute necessity of advance reservations and noted they will be accepted on a "first-come, first served" basis.

A member of the National Marine Electronics Association, Griffith is headquartered at 134 North Avenue, New Rochelle, and has a total staff of twenty-three people, including eleven technicians for installations, service and repair of electronics gear.

CLUB NEWS

PATCHOGUE FISHING CLUB

The Patchogue Fishing Club's new officers for 1979 are as follows: President—Ray Terman; 1st Vice-Pres.—Frank Zampariello; 2nd Vice-Pres.—Bob Cromeyn; Sec'y—Arthur Jones; Financial Sec'y.—Chester Owczarek, and Treasurer—Gregg Maynard.

The Annual Contest winners are:
BASS—SURF: George Dietz, 45-1.5.
BASS—BOAT: Joel Runkel, 45.
BLUE—SURF: Bob Boudreau, 17-4.
BLUE—BOAT: Bill Rockwell, 17.0.
WEAK—SURF: George Dietz, 9-0 and Ed Koster, 9-0.
WEAK—BOAT: Tom Ganetis, 10-10.
FLOUNDER: John Ritchie, 2-13.
FLUKE: John Ritchie, 7-3.
BLACKFISH: C. Moffett, Jr., 8-0.
COD—POLLACK: Ray Terman, 25-12.
TUNA: Joel Runkel, 23-0.
FRESHWATER BASS: Frank Sembler, 5-11.

SURFSIDE "3" TUNA CLUB

Surfside "3" Tuna Club is having their second of monthly films on offshore fishing in the Canyon. This month it is on marlin, swordfish, and shark, to be shown on March 15, 1979 by well known fisherman "Archie Joist" off his famous "Sea Hunter."

Coff and cake will be served.

For more info, contact: Pete Sindone, 286-8198/9505; after 5PM, Tony at Superior Tackle, 475-8825.

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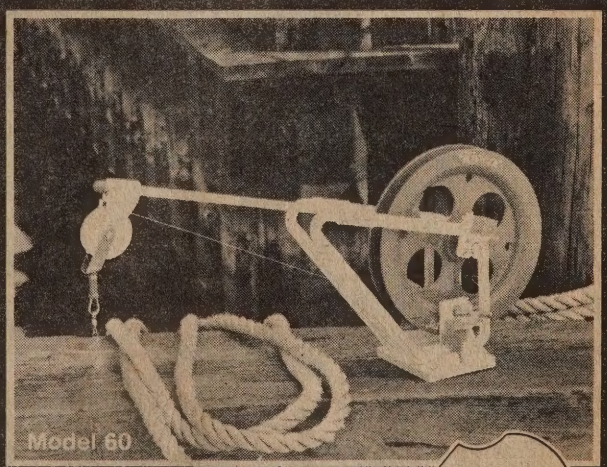
RIVIERA DOWNRIGGERS
You've weighted long enough.

No more heavy weights and planners. You use only light tackle to get down to where the fish strike with Riviera Controlled Depth Fishing Systems. Simply attach your sportline to the release on the Riviera torpedo trolling weight and lower away . . . 10 to 200 feet. When the big one strikes, you'll be fighting the power of the fish. Not the weight of heavy tackle.

Fresh and saltwater, Riviera is the leader in downriggers and accessories. Only Riviera offers you 9 different models with optional features such as electric auto-retrieve, temperature sensing accurate to within ½°, digital readout, safety reel clutch and more. Quality units to fit your boat and your budget.

Information on the entire line of Riviera Controlled Depth Fishing Systems is available from your dealer or send for your free brochure. You've weighted long enough.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CHUM LINES

HOW ABOUT WE KEEP THE PIER?

I understand that a construction pier is located at the new sewer project near Cedar Beach (South Shore). When the project is completed will pier fishing be permitted or will it be torn down. Since we don't have any good access points to the ocean (pier style), could this be run like the Jones Beach system? I would appreciate some info on this since our taxes are already paying for construction, why shouldn't we put it to good use? *L. Kaider, Medford, N.Y.*

You are absolutely right when you wonder why the highest taxed state in the Union, where the seat of the financial, cultural, and intellectual world resides can't offer saltwater fishermen ocean piers, while poor under-developed South Carolina, for example, boasts many. We think that this is a disgraceful situation. Our legislators respond to so much nonsense just because some little interest group kicks up its heels and hollers to the media. Well, what about us taxpaying, law-abiding citizens? Isn't our health, recreation, and enjoyment worth something to you Albany hacks. There's millions of us: old, young, and in-between. We're deserving, hard-working people! We ask for, and perhaps should demand, ocean fishing piers! In any case, the best info that we can come up with is that the piers you asked about will come down when they are no longer needed. This isn't so bad because the construction of the piers was not designed for long-term use and they probably wouldn't last more than a couple of seasons. Still, our request is valid. WE WANT OCEAN FISHING PIERS! When will some legislator hear us? Dr. W. A. Muller.

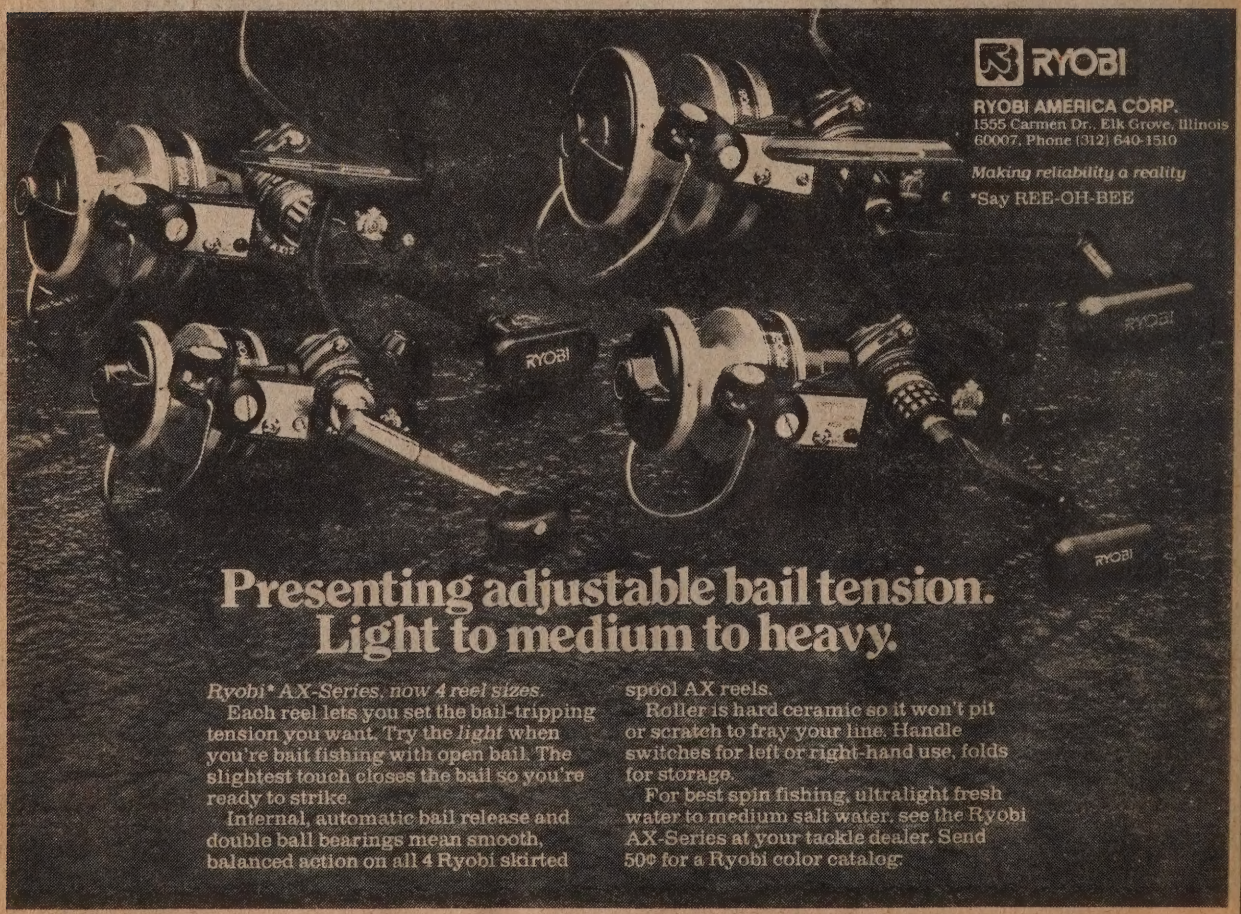
QUESTION ABOUT ROD GUIDES

I am hoping you can help me with my problem. Since I do a great deal of fishing, my rod guides only last one season. My problem is not the wrapping, but the coating. I have several dark colored rods I figured I would brighten up with yellow guide string. The wrapping went fine and the rods looked great, but when I coated them with clear varnish the black showed through the string, looking downright crummy. I was wondering if you could inform me on a better material to use and where I can buy it. Thank you very much for your time. *Paul Annitto, Bellerose, N.Y.*

Your experience is not an uncommon one. I know that it has happened to me many times. There are a few suggestions that we can make. First, we found that it is usually better to under-wrap with a light color and over-wrap with a darker color. The aesthetic result is more appealing and colors are less likely to show through. You can use light colors on top, but you have to coat the underwrap with varnish a few times before adding the over-wrap. Perhaps the nylon that you are using is too thin. Are you using "A" nylon? If so, switch to "C." When you buy rod wrapping nylon, always ask for N.C.P. nylon. This wrapping material does not have to be treated with color preservative before varnishing and is less likely to bleed with an under-wrap. Try these suggestions and let us know how things work out. If you continue to have problems, take your rod to a local tackle shop and ask the owner. I'm sure that they will be able to diagnose the problem on the spot.

BOATING

Incidentally, Captain Ron Onorato called recently to tell us that he will once again be chartering out of Montauk. Fishermen interested in securing a charter for the 1979 season can call Ron at (212) 347-3852.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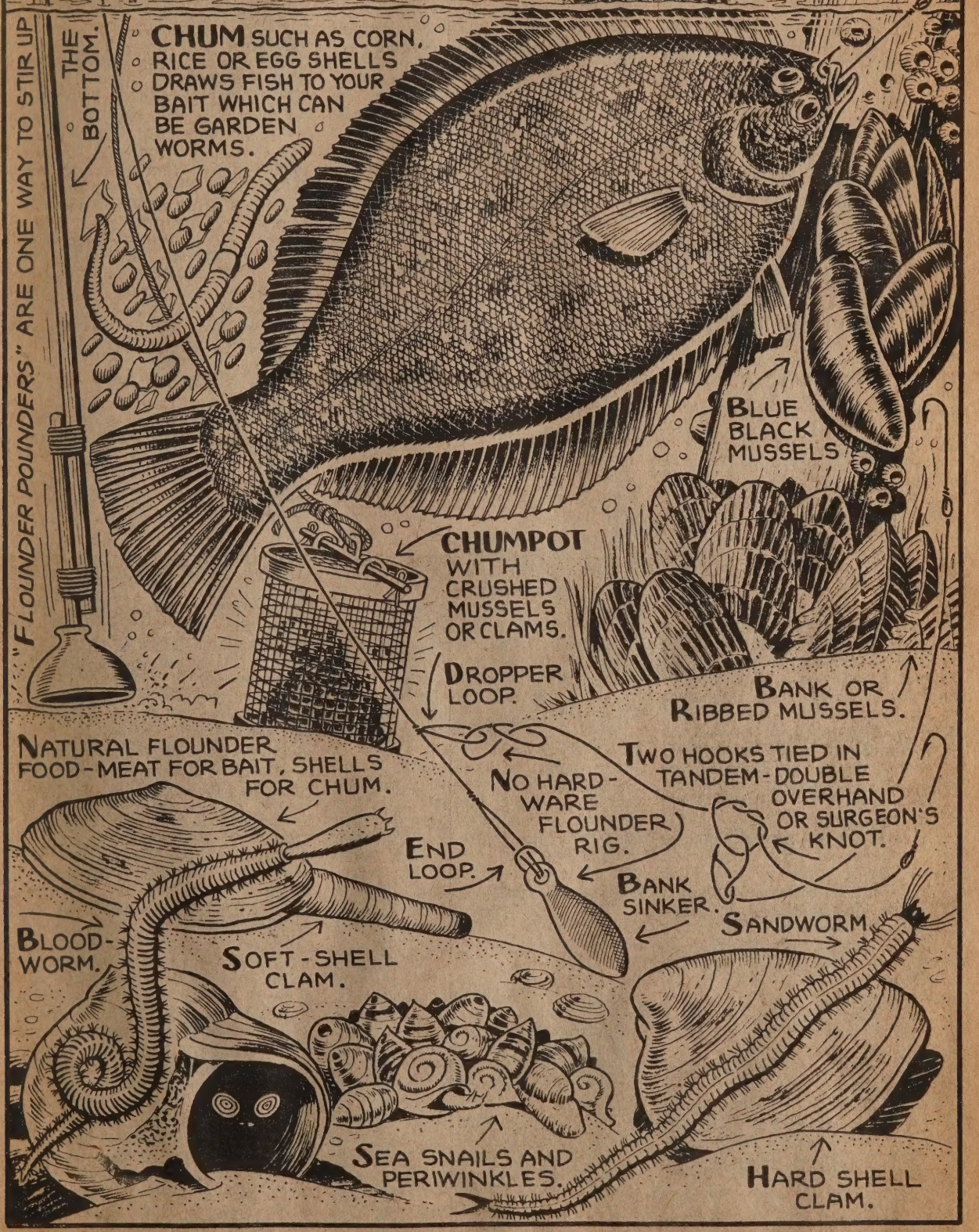
SPRING FLOUNDER

BY FRED GUARDINEER

FLOUNDERS START STIRRING FROM THE MUD IN LATE FEBRUARY AND ARE ALWAYS RUNNING BY ST. PATRICK'S DAY. THE SPRING SEASON LASTS THROUGH MAY AND EVEN INTO JUNE IN THE DEEPER WATERS. FLATTIES SPEND THE SUMMER OFFSHORE, RETURNING TO THE BAYS IN OCTOBER FOR A FALL RUN.


"FLOUNDER POUNDERS" ARE ONE WAY TO STIR UP THE BOTTOM.
CHUM SUCH AS CORN, RICE OR EGG SHELLS DRAWS FISH TO YOUR BAIT WHICH CAN BE GARDEN WORMS.
BLUE BLACK MUSSELS
CHUMPOT WITH CRUSHED MUSSELS OR CLAMS.
DROPPER LOOP.
BANK OR RIBBED MUSSELS.
NATURAL FLOUNDER FOOD - MEAT FOR BAIT, SHELLS FOR CHUM.
TWO HOOKS TIED IN TANDEM - DOUBLE OVERHAND OR SURGEON'S KNOT.
NO HARD-WARE FLOUNDER RIG.
END LOOP.
BANK SINKER.
SANDWORM.
BLOOD-WORM.
SOFT-SHELL CLAM.
SEA SNAILS AND PERIWINKLES.
HARD SHELL CLAM.

FISH TALK

with Dr. William A. Muller

Mariculture

Part VII – MARINE PLANT CULTURE

WHAT DID HE SAY? You're probably thinking to yourself that nothing could possibly interest you less than marine plant culture. But hold on, there is more to seaweeds than meets the eye. Actually, man has utilized marine plants for many years, yet it has only been within the past decade or so that we have begun to understand exactly how useful these plants may be to help us meet the demands of the future.

CURRENT AND PAST USES OF MARINE PLANTS. There are three groups of marine algae that are most important to man. These are the **Chlorophyceae** (green algae), **Rhodophyceae** (red algae), and **Phaeophyceae** (brown algae). Man uses some of these for human food, cattle fodder, extracts vegetable gums, converts it to agar; in the past has extracted iodine and potash, and in the future may produce alternative fuels to oil, special lubricants, and seaweeds may play a vital role in new types of sewage treatment and other biodegradable procedures.

WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE USE OF MARINE PLANTS NOW? Man harvests wild growing seaweeds and he also cultures these plants. The harvest of wild seaweeds is about 300,000 metric tons (dry weight) annually, but mariculture produces perhaps three or four times this amount. In the United States, the use of marine seaweeds is primarily industrial; but in other countries, especially the countries of the Orient, marine seaweeds are an important source of food. Seaweeds can be turned into flour or used whole as a vegetable. In Canada and the United States, there is an effort to develop home, agricultural, as well as industrial uses of seaweeds.

THE MIGHTY KELP! Kelp species belong to the group known as the brown algae and are unique both because of their size and because they have evolved the ability to hold onto the bottom—not with roots, but with special structures called holdfasts. The kelps use the natural buoyancy of the water to support their great size because, unlike trees, they do not have woody support tissues. All of their cells are soft, yet they have survived for hundreds of millions of years without changing very much at all. In fact, there are very few higher plants that have succeeded in the sea and this is because conditions in the sea are so beneficial to the algae that higher plants (flowering plants) have never been able to replace them through successful competition. The Pacific kelp (**Macrocystis**) can reach a length of more than one hundred feet and has a long history of use by man. Special machines have been developed that actually mows the tops of the kelp at the surface in much the same way that we mow our grass. You see, kelp grows very rapidly and when the blades get to the surface, they do not grow out of the surface, but instead they lay down sideways parallel to the surface. The kelp can be mowed once a week. Agar is an important industrial product of the kelps. What is agar? When you were in school did you ever do an experiment in biology where you smeared things on this light brown gelatin that was on the bottom of a round plastic dish? That brown gelatin was agar.

ENERGY SHORTAGE. Seaweeds may play an important role in helping man to reduce the burdens of the energy shortage. Many scientists believe that seaweeds will be willing partners in biodegradable systems that will help us get rid of some damaging human wastes and by-products, and produce either combustible gases or combustible liquids. If this is true, we may be able to develop the technology to produce all of our own natural gas from seaweeds.

PLANTS ARE IDEALLY SUITED FOR MARICULTURE! Just like plants on land, marine plants do not swim away or complain about crowding. The culture of marine plants will be very much like terrestrial agriculture. There is also another important feature of the culture of marine plants. That is, we can bring the plant to where it is needed, grow it there and harvest it there.

WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF SEAWEED CULTURE? There is every reason to believe that it will grow rapidly over the next few decades. There already exists a demand, but new technologies will increase that demand perhaps a hundredfold. At the present time, science has developed the procedures for successful farming, but the main thrust of research and development has been, and will be for some time, the development of new uses and expanding world markets. In addition, scientists have been searching for the correct species for specific requirements in different parts of the world. Successes include matching the correct marine red algae with the right group of industrialists in the Philippines and introducing the proper species of edible kelp into the farms of seaweeds culturists in China. The future will probably include the development of special hybrid strains that grow more rapidly, are resistent to disease, have a more acceptable flavor, or any one of hundreds of special traits that might be desirable.

HOW DO WE GROW MARINE PLANTS? There are about five key abilities that are needed in order to operate a successful seaweed farm. First, farmers will need to understand the management of algae stocks. This will require special training since algae are not at all like land plants. Second, in many cases the area in which the farm will operate will need to be adjusted in order to accommodate the algae. For example, if kelp were to be grown over a sandy bottom, the farmer would encounter many difficulties. Thus, rocks or concrete rubble would have to be scattered over the bottom so that the kelp would have something to hold onto. Techniques of fertilization to maintain maximum growth would also be necessarily learned and used. Third, it will be important to develop the ability to store the algae for long periods. There are a number of technical reasons why this capacity will be important. Fourth, the farmers will need training in special sciences, including botany and chemistry in order to deal with special problems such as vegetative propagation, water testing, and quality control. In addition, algae farmers will develop new strains and, thus will do considerable experimentation. Fifth, water and bottom lease rights and the legislation that will create these leasing procedures will be necessary. The use of the water does not present a problem in some countries where it can be simply ordered by the government. However, in our country we are careful not to violate the rights of others. For that reason, progress has been slow to develop bottom leasing procedures; but we have made considerable progress in the last ten years and we have every reason to believe that we will make even more progress in the years to come.

THE DOUBLE CROP? At the present time, most work concentrates on the single crop of seaweed. However, scientists realize that these farms have the capacity to produce several crops at the same time without loss of either productivity or efficiency. For example, shellfish frequently find that seaweed beds are excellent habitats and they frequently settle out there. The same is often true for crustaceans. Thus, lobsters, crabs, oysters, abalone, and other delicacies of the sea may be abundant in kelp beds, for example. In kelp, the holdfasts are rarely pulled free and the bottom is never dragged except when replanting; therefore, it would be easy to

maintain two crops—the primary seaweed crop and the second shellfish crop.

AS A WAY TO DO OTHER THINGS! Growing algae may be a way to produce other things as well as a means to a direct end. For example, species of green algae are sometimes cultured to serve as food for developing juvenile stages of various types of shellfish. However, the science of these activities is just as precise as open ocean farming and there have been many advances that have come out of research that was intended to help grow oysters, but became generally useful in the field of marine agronomy.

MEDICAL SPINOFFS? Perhaps! Over the years, there have been scattered but persistent reports that new drugs may be developed from various species of marine algae. These reports have included claims that extracts of some algae may be powerful antibiotics in the war against infectious diseases, while other reports have suggested that important anti-cancer drugs and other life-saving medicines may be produced from algae. Scientists are investigating these possibilities. At the present time, marine plant research revolves mainly around developing new sources of food, energy, and industrial products. There has been little money and interest in basic research and this is unfortunate. It is often difficult to predict the direction that such research will take. In short, we cannot dictate our research success before we start. By confining the research into narrow avenues, we may be preventing the discovery of many new and exciting facts.

THINGS MAY LOOK BETTER THAN THEY ARE! This is the last in this series on mariculture. Those of you who have read all of the installments may be wondering why I have said in the past that the state of marine science is very backward and primitive. Based upon some of the items that have appeared in these stories on mariculture, that may seem unfair. I have stated that marine science is backward, and it is. That is not to say that it is dead. Many fine discoveries have been made and many good workers have made significant contributions. However, the commitment from government has been slow to take shape. In this specialized technical and expensive world it is difficult for any segment of private society to mount any kind of intense assault in the areas of development of entirely new technologies. It will remain for the government to put dollars behind its reports and words before marine science takes its rightful place in the world, helping man to resolve many of his most important needs and problems.

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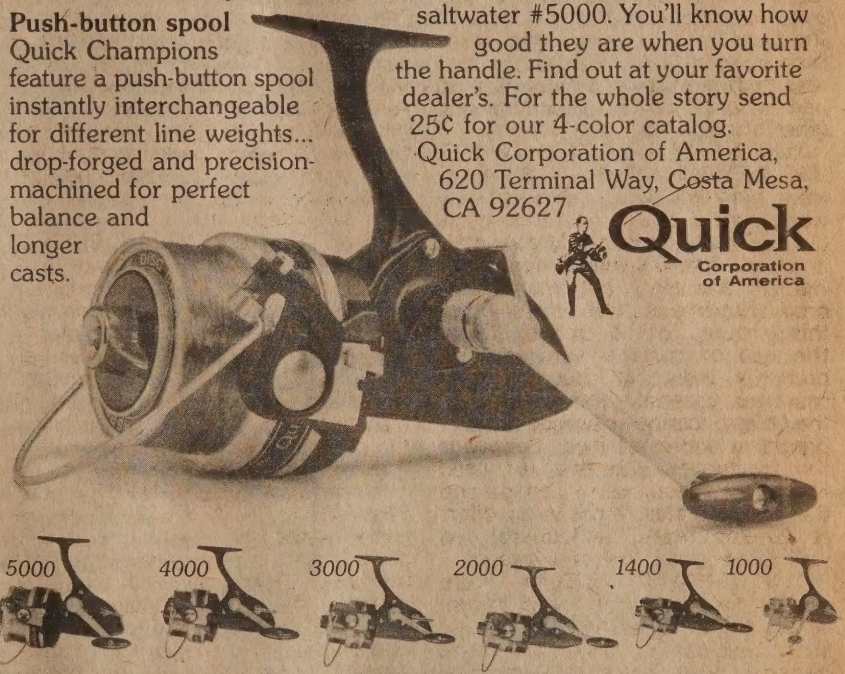

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Sinker Bouncing

with Matt Ahern

Spring Flounder Primer —Part Two—

Last week we discussed the proper tackle needed to best enjoy spring flounder fishing. Terminal tackle and how to tie tandem rigs were also noted. This week, as promised, we'll get a little nearer to putting flounder in the bucket by taking a look at bait and chumming methods. When I began work on this series of articles, I allotted an approximation of so many words for each item of importance. For instance, so many for spinning tackle, so many for conventional equipment, and so many for terminal tackle, etc. But when I arrived at the section on chumming, I realized that the meager allotment assigned to it would never do. Chumming has gotten to be such an important part of spring flounder fishing—especially so these past several years—that I had to revise my outline. You may believe I find this difficult to write, for I never thought I'd witness the day flounder fishermen would find chum almost as necessary as bait itself; that the day would arrive when flounder fishermen would no longer be able to cast from shore to a likely spot, or anchor over a known producing area, and get arm-weary filling the bucket with little strain or pain. As any old-time flounder fisherman will tell you, this good fishing was the expected thing; but today, while we frequently do have good catches without chum, they no longer can be considered common. Therefore, today's fisherman will find a working knowledge of correct chumming procedures will certainly reduce the chances of failure.

How you use chum depends upon several important factors: where you are fishing; how you are fishing, and the presence or lack of current. When fishing backwater bay areas, or creeks having little current, fishermen often dispense with a chum pot and rely on hand-chumming the area much as a farmer hand-feeds his flock of barnyard hens. Fishing areas near inlets, or wherever currents are strong enough to move scattered chum out of reach of baited hooks, always calls for the use of a chum pot to hold the fish close to the boat.

You will find much dissension among fishermen on the methods just stated. Some will use a chum pot regardless of whether the current is strong, or non-existent; others never use a chum pot—period. These are the fellows who attempt to gauge current strength by tossing cracked whole mussel far enough up-tide so that it comes to rest beneath the boat. Needless to say, this particular type of chumming is not recommended for the novice. There is only one fisherman I know who can successfully achieve desired results with this method: Nick Hauck. But then, Nick has forgotten more about flounder fishing than I'll ever know. In the hands of such anglers, gauging current strength in relation to successful chumming is duck soup, but I've never had much luck with it. I recommend you stick with either a chum pot for all-around fishing, or hand-chumming those areas where currents are known to be minimal.

What makes the best chum? Without a doubt the answer to that must be cracked bank mussels, used either in a chum pot or freely scattered close to the boat. From then on, the selection is yours, but whatever else you use will always come in second to mussel.

Chumming with canned corn has been in the limelight for nearly a score of years. And so has much discussion on the matter. There is no question corn makes good chum, especially when dribbled over-side in slow currents. But because I'm from the old-fashioned school of fishing, I never use it. I am still not convinced it is harmless to flounder. Foolish? Silly? Stupid? Perhaps of all these I am guilty. Yes, I know what the scientific boys says about corn—that it has no ill-effect on the digestive system of flounder; but deep inside me exists a nagging doubt, and so long as that doubt persists, I'll stick to natural chum.

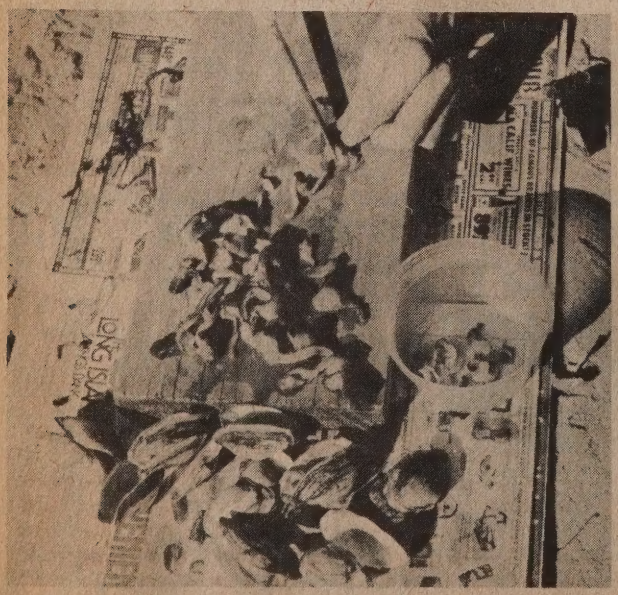
Uncooked rice also makes good chum—but I believe this falls more into the category of such items as pebbles, beach sand, and broken shells, serving merely to attract curious flounder to the area. I have experimented with rice from time to time and find it works well enough, and yet I have never found rice in flounder stomachs. It may be, though, that flounder actually do eat rice as well as corn, but as yet I haven't proved it to my satisfaction. Perhaps those I did catch hadn't picked up the rice, and those that did weren't caught. Certainly, there is much room for experimentation here.

Besides bank mussel, you can also fill the chum pot with cracked hard or soft clam. I find, though, that these work best when tossed over-side close to the baited hooks; of the two, I believe soft clam has the edge. For a chum pot to work efficiently, the enclosed goo must be in small enough pieces to dispense in the current to attract outlying fish whenever the pot is bounced on bottom. Large pieces will not do this; therefore, the best part of the clam may remain trapped inside the pot.

We come now to bait—the Nemesis of the inexperienced flounder fisherman. As stated in Part One, flounder are not patsies for the baited hook, regardless of what we fellows have been told to the contrary. I believe this repeated insistence that this is so is a holdover from the days of plenty, when flounder (and other bottom feeders) were so plentiful, and in proportion, food so scarce, the fish could not afford to pass up anything in the line of subsistence. There was then no choice in the matter—eat, or do without. If a flounder showed fussy traits, there were a dozen nearby who didn't. Piscatorially speaking, today has truly become a market for the skilled sport fisherman. He must show good wares in order to interest his "buyer."

Which means that long gone are the days when a fisherman could arm himself with a dozen blood or sandworms and come home with three or four dozen fish without trying exceptionally hard. Today, however, the flounder fisherman must carry at least two different kinds of bait if he wishes to have a decent shot at the fish. I suppose the smart fisherman always did do that, but it wasn't as mandatory as today.

Beginning fishermen have always associated the marine worm with flounder fishing. But this doesn't necessarily mean that worms are best; especially is this



Care in preparing bait, care in chumming and care in the presentation of the bait will usually result in a nice bucket of flounder.

so at the beginning of the season when water temperatures are low. You will then find fresh bank mussel, and any of the clams, particularly soft clam necks, best. Of this selection, I would have to say bank mussel is tops. When water temperatures begin to rise rapidly (sometime around the third week of April) you will find worms more to the fish's liking.

Therefore, it will be to your benefit to put more faith in mussel and clam at this time of year than later. But this doesn't mean you should exclude trying a bit of worm from time to time. It is always best to allow the fish to make the decision. Were I to go flounder fishing tomorrow, I would certainly include the following: fresh bank mussel, sliced soft clam necks, and at least a dozen bloodworms. One of these will get you fish. If I had to choose among these three, I would rely mostly on bank mussel.

All bait should be used in generous portions. Ignore the flounder's small mouth; even a small flattie can easily handle a worm or slice of clam one-and-a-half inches in length. As for bank mussel, use it exactly as removed from the shell—in one piece. Weave the hook through several times and it will stay on long enough to entice a flounder. Be advised to discard mussel bait when it shows signs of leaching; this means the enticing flavor has been lost. This is not too important when using worm or clam, but mussel must be changed frequently until action starts.

How bait is placed on a hook often makes the difference between a good catch and one that is mediocre at best. It is most important that all bait appear as natural-like or as appealing as possible. If you wish to catch small flounder, I can tell you exactly how to go about it: just bunch your bait around the hook. This always works. If you wish to catch your share of decent-sized flounder, make sure your bait is allowed to wiggle enticingly in the current.

When using worm or clam, allow the hook point and barb to protrude about a third of an inch from the end. Don't concern yourself about the hook showing—flounder never notice. This also assures more certain hooking of those foxy flounder that hit and run. You won't find this happening often during the early part of the season because cold temperatures make flounder sluggish in their approach to bait. But later, rising water temperatures will cause the flatties to become more active; therefore, baiting up in this manner will stop any quick-biters dead in their tracks.

This also applies when baiting with soft baits such as mussel. Never hesitate to allow that bait to stream out in the current. This is what makes it attractive to the curious flounder, leading to further investigation on their part, which, of course, leads them nowhere but in your bucket. The cat isn't the only animal done in by curiosity.

Many fishermen put faith in dyed clam. I would say this is justified, but not nearly as much now as when it first appeared on the scene. Why this is so, I don't know, and I wish I did. I and my buddies have made some truly memorable catches on red-dyed sliced soft clam necks and skimmer. But it won't hurt to carry a small container of either red or yellow-dyed clam any time.

If you are interested, here's how to do it. Slice your clam into suitably-sized pieces—thin, and about an inch-and-a-half long. Place in a small tub such as the kind in which whipped topping or potato salad is purchased. Food dye in the color of your choice is added. (Yellow can be seen in water over twenty feet deep; red is lost beyond this depth—so be guided according to your fishing area.) Add food dye slowly, stirring constantly with a small stick. Don't over-dye, especially when using red—it will turn quite dark if you do. Store in the refrigerator if you intend to fish soon; otherwise place in the deep freeze. This is recommended because clam will take on a soft texture upon thawing and be in prime condition. Return any leached bait to the container when fishing and stir to restore color.

Next week we'll discuss the actual catching of flounder.

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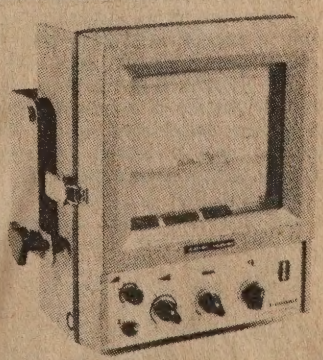

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There are certain tips or tricks of the trade in surf fishing that are acquired only through years of experience. There are others that will be taught to you by fellow fishermen. Still others will be learned by watching tight-lipped veterans skillfully plying their trade.

Number one: USE OF TEASERS

The use of a teaser ahead of your lure may be nothing new to some of you, especially to you old-time tuna trollers. However, although I have seen teasers used occasionally, I personally would never use one; that is—or was—until this past spring while fishing in Cape Cod. A friend of mine and the proprietor of Bass Run Tackle, in Eastham, Massachusetts, gave me four such teasers and told me to use them and catch more fish. I did use them, and the results were so good that I continued using teasers right through until the end of the fall fishing. Basically, what it takes to make a teaser is a pack of feathers, rod winding nylon thread, and a 4/0 or 5/0 hook. Tie the feathers to the hook much the same way you would tie a fly. Once made, the teaser is attached to your line approximately two to two-and-a-half feet above your plug. Simply attach ten to twelve inches of forty to fifty pound test monofilament to your teaser using a clinch knot. Now tie the loose end of the monofilament to the bottom part of the swivel of your leader, also using a clinch knot. When you tighten up on the knot make sure that you pull in the direction opposite your plug and move the knot to the top portion of the bottom ring of your swivel. You will now be assured that the teaser will not tangle in your leader.

The basic idea of such a rig (or at least I am told) is to fool the bass into thinking that one fish (your plug) is chasing another fish (your teaser). The bass respond to the competition and hit either the plug or the teaser. For whatever reasons there are, a greater portion of your strikes will come on the teaser. Using this method, both myself and fellow club members accounted for many striped bass this past season.

Number Two: LEADERS

There may be some purist out there who will frown on the use of a leader when plugging bass. I, however, will take the opposite stance and ALWAYS use a leader no matter where I am fishing or what type of tackle I am using. There are two main advantages in the use of leaders. First: a leader will save you fish. Bass have sharp gill plates and it won't take very much for your thin line to part should it come in contact with one of them. Second: it makes it easier to release small fish without losing your expensive plugs. This is especially important when you are wading and using light tackle. When the fish is within arm's distance, simply grab the leader and lift the fish to you. If you attempt this without the use of a leader you will be inviting disaster and just asking for your thin line to break. The fish will thrash and jump, and I have seen many lines part, costing the angler his plug. Another advantage of a leader is that it will afford a little extra protection against the savage teeth of the bluefish. At least a little more protection than fifteen to twenty pound test monofilament will give. However, nothing is one hundred percent protection against the razor sharp teeth of a blue.

When I make up my leaders I use only one type of line, two sizes of snaps, and two different size swivels. The only line that I use is forty pound test Ande Tournament Grade. The tournament line differs from the regular grade in that it is thinner and much softer. This softness makes it ideal for plugging since it will not interfere with the working of your plugs. A stiff line used as a leader will affect the swimming action of a small artificial such as a Rebel or Red-Fin. You want your swimming plugs to appear as close to the real thing as possible and a soft, pliable leader will contribute toward this.

When using light tackle, I will use a #3 Duo-Lock snap and a small black swivel that should test out to be approximately fifty pound test. Tie the snap to one end of your leader and the swivel to the opposite end. I do not use a second swivel attached to the snap. The length of this leader should not be more than thirty inches.

For use with heavier tackle, I prefer a #5 Duo-Lock snap and a black swivel testing out at approximately one hundred pounds.

Number Three: DISPOSABLE FLASHLIGHTS

Have you ever had to walk the beach or climb over cumbersome rocks with a clumsy battery case containing four batteries tearing apart your pants pocket? Or have you ever needed some light and had to bang or tap the case or the rusted switch and have both fail because of the rusted condition? If you have been victim to this annoying necessity of night fishing—fret no more. For the price of the batteries alone you can purchase a disposable flashlight and with a small modification you can convert this into a workable neck light. After purchasing the light, make it **almost** waterproof by placing any good brand of glue around the joints of the light and also around the edges where the plastic lens fits into the frame. This should seal out most of the corrosive water, except if you take a severe dunking—but then, even a store-bought neck light would take water if you are submerged. After the glue hardens, take twenty inches of two-inch thick elastic and form a loop. Then, using electrician's tape, tightly wrap one end of the elastic on each side of the light. You now have a neck light that will give you better service than the commercial types that require batteries, and at a much cheaper price. You can purchase these lights on sale for about $1 to $1.50 each. Two such lights should last you the entire season and then some. No more maintenance, buying batteries, changing bulbs, or shaking the case when you need light. When the light fails, just discard it and use the same piece of elastic to make another neck light. One more word about these disposable lights. When you go shopping for one, select the type that has the swivel wheel on/off switch and not the pushbutton type. The pushbuttons have a tendency to stick in the "on" position as they get older, and it is a difficult chore to correct it—especially when you are into fish.

Number Four: BOTTOM FISHING SAND SPIKE

Many of you who bottom fish for bass, blues, etc., may overlook a very important item of equipment; that is, the size of your sand spike. However, many veteran surfmen who make it a habit to drown worms or dunk bunker will almost always use a sand spike of about three feet in length. This is especially true when fishing the South Shore of Long Island where the surf tends to be rougher than it is on the North Shore beaches.

The advantages of the higher spike lies in the fact that when your rod is placed in the holder, the line will enter the water at a much higher angle than if placed in a smaller sand spike. Unless the surf is extremely rough, your line will angle over the breakers putting less line in the water for the waves to crash against and for seaweed to attach to. This will permit your sinker to hold bottom better.

To make a three-foot sand spike, simply attach an ordinary one to three feet of one-half inch angled aluminum by means of a few brass screws. Cut the bottom to a dull point, and you're in business.

Number Five: TAPE ON ROD TIP

On many occasions your bottom fishing will take you into all hours of the night. During new moon periods, and on nights when clouds overshadow the moonlight, your rod may be difficult to see unless you are standing right next to it. This is especially true if your rod happens to be either black or dark brown in color. To overcome this limited visibility, place a piece

of white luminous tape or some luminous paint around the top of your rod, just below the tip. You should now be able to see the darkest colored rods during the darkest of nights, from a greater distance than before. Just shine your light in the direction of your tiptop and you will be able to see your rod. There is no need to constantly stand next to the rod and keep looking up at the tip. Besides being hard on the neck muscles, it can become very boring. You can now wander a short distance away and still safely observe your tip. You can also mark other items with this tape, such as your sand spike or tackle box so that they can be easily located.

If you're caught in a pinch, you can use a piece of white bandage tape on your rod tip. This you should carry in your first aid pouch which should be in your tackle box. However, you will not have as much visibility with this tape as you will with the luminous kind.

Number Six: CHANGE SIZE BEFORE COLOR

When you are casting to feeding fish, but cannot coax them into taking your offering, try changing the size of your plug before going to one of a different color. Most of the time it is the size of the bait the fish are feeding on that counts. This is especially true when they are feeding on small sand eels.

Number Seven: RETRIEVING PLASTIC OR METAL-LIPPED SWIMMING PLUGS

While you are making your retrieve when using plastic or metal-lipped swimming plugs, try lifting back on your rod tip every once in awhile. I don't mean pull up hard, but rather in a short, smooth pulsating motion. This will cause your plug to dart and spurt for short distances, much the same way a bait fish will do every once in awhile. This technique is extremely effective when employing the seven inch Rebel or Red-Fin.

Number Eight: BEND THE EYES, NOT THE LIPS

For those times when you will be casting metal-lipped plugs and want them to either swim deeper or higher in the water, bend the eye of the plug and not the lip. The constant playing with the position of the lip will only serve to loosen it and does not materially affect the swimming action of the plug. By bending the eye socket of the plug upwards, you will cause the swimmer to dive. When you wish the plug to swim at or near the surface, bend the eye lid down. Just keep in mind to bend the eye lid in the opposite direction of your desired action. Just one word of advice: do not attempt to fool with the eyes of plastic-lipped plugs.

Number Nine: MACHINE WOUND HOOKS

There may be times that you will be bottom fishing using worms as bait. You string the worms in the much-accepted conventional fashion, but cannot seem to hook the fish. For some unknown reason the fish are striking short. All you are rewarded with for your efforts are half worms. You decide to thread the worm onto the hook, but the snell knot of the leader tears apart the head and body of your bait. You realize that it is practically impossible to slide the worm over this knot and do not want to cut the worm in half for fear of its losing the natural appeal to the fish. This used to happen to me pretty often, especially in the springtime when fishing Staten Island for the still somewhat lethargic bass. The way that I have overcome this is to carry some machine wound hooks in my tackle box for special use during times like these.

Machine wound hooks differ from the ordinary snelled variety in that the monofilament leader is wrapped or wound onto the hook shank. There is a smooth strong wrap without the use of a knot to hold the snell tight. This makes it much easier to slide the worm up past the wind and onto the leader without mutilating the VERY EXPENSIVE WORM. You will also use one worm on a hook rather than two.

To bait these types of hooks, simply insert the point of the hook into the mouth of the worm. Now slide the body of the worm around the bend in the hook and up over the wrappings and onto the leader. Keep inching the entire body of the worm along in this fashion until the tail hangs over the point of the hook by about an inch or an inch-and-a-half. You are now ready for those short strikes. Aside from the springtime, try this technique when the waters are muddy or sandy because of a strong wind or storm.

There is only one minor drawback to using these hooks. They are hard to come by as most fishing tackle stores do not carry machine wound hooks any longer. However, you can order direct from a manufacturer. Write the Pequea Fishing Tackle Co., Inc., Strasburg, Pa. Ask about their hooks and request a catalog.

One last item: do not attempt to make your own hooks. No matter how skillful you are, you still cannot do the job that the manufacturer can.

Number Ten: THE DUO-LOCK FISHFINDER SNAP

Many of you use the conventional store-bought fishfinder rigs that consist of a hollow piece of plastic for the line to pass through and a metal sinker holder. One drawback of this type of fishfinder rig is that changing sinkers can become a chore. If sand happens to get caught under that metal slide or if corrosion sets in you will have all you can do to loose the slide in order to change sinkers. Another drawback is the fact that the metal slide that protects the sinker may become too loose, thus risking the loss of the sinker. Also, for about the price of two of these conventional fishfinder rigs, you can make six or seven of the Duo-Lock variety and not have the problems just mentioned.

All that is needed to make the Duo-Lock rig are two #5 Duo-Lock snaps and one black swivel. Attach the swivel to the top portion of the snap, lock the snap closed and place the line through the top ring of the swivel. The hanging snap now becomes your sinker holder. Tie the remaining snap to the end of your line using a clinch knot. This will prevent your sinker holder from sliding off the line. There are also other advantages to using the second Duo-Lock in this fashion. The ease with which you can change rigs should a fish swallow the entire hook or if the fishing gets hot and heavy. Simply unsnap the loop of the leader from the Duo-Lock and replace with a fresh baited hook—it's that quick. No cutting the line and re-tying knots when the pressure is on. Another big advantage is when you have your rod in the sand spike very close to the water's edge. There is no need to lug the rod back up the beach to where your bait should be, high and dry. Just un-snap the hook, leave the rod in the sand spike and carry only the hook back and forth. Again, if other means are used in place of this second snap, this won't be possible.

As mentioned at the beginning of this article, all the techniques that I have covered are time-tested and used by many of the Island's veteran surfmen. Give them a try, and I hope that they add a few more fish to your stringer.

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ULTIMATE FLOUNDER POUNDER

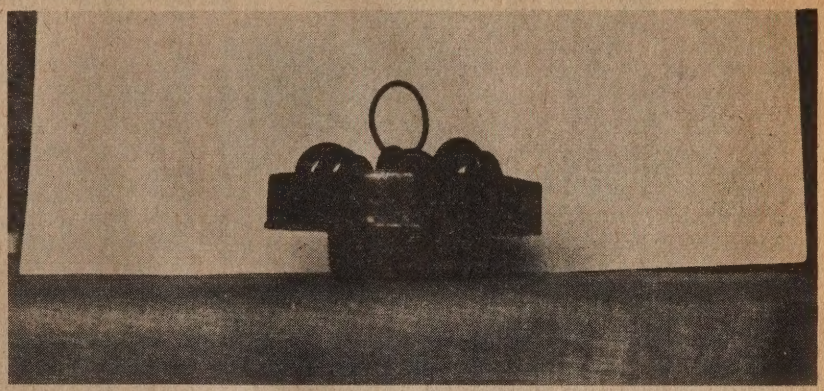
In this Corner:
Bob Hunt
Babylon Tuna Club

Flounder pounders have been around for a long time. Some smart fisherman discovered a long time ago that stirring up the bottom attracted flounders. At first, fishermen bounced spare anchors, then we graduated to cement filled cans or old car parts. What was needed was a pounder specifically designed for not only stirring up the bottom mud, but one that would break open mussels and clams on the bottom. Yankee ingenuity was put to the test.

The result of many trials was the "ultimate flounder pounder." From an engineering standpoint, we could say that it provides a maximum of surface area in contact with the bottom, while keeping the bulk to a minimum. To the fisherman, this means more mud stirred up under the boat. This pounder easily breaks up mussels and clams as well.

You can use the flounder pounder two ways. You can bounce it ten times with a jerking motion at different spots around the boat. This will draw fish to the boat. You can also tie your chum pot above the pounder. If you feel a hard bump when you bounce the pounder, you're probably on a flounder poor bottom.

The second way to use this pounder is to tie it to the gunwale of the boat, up-current of your baits. This is usually the middle of the boat, but when wind and tide oppose each other, it could change. Hang your baits in the water and see which way they drift. With the pounder tied up-current of your



baits, bounce it ten times, then very slowly raise and lower your baits six inches off the bottom. If you don't "catch" the pounder occasionally, you're fishing too far away from it. Another tip here is to tie the pounder to the boat so that it bounces with the rise and fall of the boat; this way the boat does the "pounding" for you.

Materials:

5 lbs. lead
8" diameter can
10 eye bolts or 1" galvanized lag bolts
1/4" brass rod or "S" hook
20' 3/8" synthetic line

Construction Hints:

A round can works better, but a square 2-gallon oil can will work. Just be sure to center the wire loop or "S" hook.

Lag bolts will work but don't screw them flush. Leave them 1/2" up inside the can.

Procedure:

Bend a loop of brass rod into a figure "8" shape.

Drill 10 holes in the bottom of the can so you can screw in the eye bolts from the inside.

Place the can in a box of damp sand or dirt with the screw threads in the sand. Straighten eye bolts to keep them upright.

Heat lead and pour into can; about 1½" thick will do.

Embed the figure "8" brass rod or "S" hook halfway into the molten lead. You may have to hold it steady until the lead cools a bit.

Let cool and remove from sand.

With an old chisel, trim away excess can down to the level of the lead.

Attach the small shackle to the pounder along with the rope. Use 3/8" rope or synthetic clothesline. It won't rot or cut into your hand while you pound the bottom.

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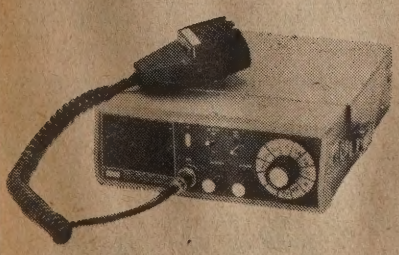

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One Week Every Spring

by Andy Regina

Flounder are highly prized by fishermen—not only for their delicious taste and usual abundance—but because they are the signal that our winter doldrums are over; our piscatorial harbinger of spring, presaging the hopeful new season finally awakening.

We rush the new season, hopefully prospecting beaches along the South Shore as well as those on the Sound, long before boats are ready for the season, hopeful that some tiny flattie will titillate our taste buds, as well as our sense of touch, by fighting futilely against a bowed rod.

By the time St. Patrick's Day rolls around, which is the traditional start of our season, we are more than ready to board one of the many party boats now starting to sail in search of flounder, or rent a skiff at some boat livery if we do not have the luxury of owning a boat of our own, which can either be trailered to a ramp of our choice, or docked at some convenient marina.

Party boats operating out of the western end of the Sound usually head for Oyster Bay at the start of each new season, fishing way inshore, Near Bayville, for the first week or two, picking up the usual average-sized flounder that run about a pound or so, which makes everyone happy. At the end of March or by the first week of April, some really big flounder are caught—fish running up to 2½ lbs., which are nice-sized flounder in any man's language.

This run of big fish are the spawners: males are laden with milt yet, and females display that floppy, distended stomach that denotes their roe has already been dropped and fertilized. And these fish bite ravenously, displaying none of the shy hesitancy in approaching baits that earlier caught fish showed. But the run is short lived, only lasting about a week or so, and traced on their outward migration by the party boats that now fish ever closer to the Sound, coming out a little farther each day from Bayville, to the big round light, to the end of Shelter Island, and then into the Sound proper. Once into the Sound, the big fish are gone for another year, when we once more will catch them again, about the last week of March.

Fishermen are a spoiled lot, never fully satisfied with things as they are; hence that February-caught, half-pound flounder which was so eagerly accepted just a few short weeks ago is now too small to suit us. Even those pound-sized flounder of March have lost their attraction. Nothing will do but some filleting-size flatties, and so we seek them in the Sound, rather than settle for fish that are more readily available to us. The problem herein lies in the fact that Long Island Sound is such a huge body of water, thus making any search for fish monumental in scope. To facilitate our task, knowledge of the flounder's habits are extremely essential.

The winter flounder (**Pseudopleuronectes americanus**) is found from Labrador to Georgia, predominantly from the Gulf of St. Lawrence to Chesapeake Bay, and is known by many colloquial names, among which are: flatfish, blackback, blueback, black flounder, and mud dab. Generally, smaller fish are to be found in shallow water, and large fish in deeper water—although large fish will enter water less than one foot deep.

The flounder moves about considerably in search of food, but does not generally migrate too far from home base: there is a distinct movement from deep water toward shallow water in the fall, and an offshore movement in spring.

They prefer a bottom of soft, rich, black mud—especially if it is laden with minute crustaceans and mollusks, or tiny seaworms, all of which make up the flounder's diet. They also feed on small plants and tiny inverterbrates, plus larval or tiny fish that are small enough to fit into the mini-mouth of this odd-looking, right-handed flatfish. Offshore they prefer hard bottom as well as soft bottom, and can be found over muddy sand, clear sand, clay or fine gravel. Inshore the best spots would be a combination of sand and mud bottom with patches of eelgrass; clean white sand and a pebbly floor, and deeper holes in creeks, channels, and estuaries, especially at low tide. Inlets should definitely be prospected, especially if the inshore/offshore migrations are under way, to intercept flounder on their journey to or from bays.

Spawning generally occurs from January to May, peaking in March and April, usually over a sandy bottom at depths of from one to forty fathoms (six feet to two hundred forty feet). Spawning over, the fish scatter over a wide area, which is where we pick up our interrupted story.

Pinpointing possible areas that harbor big flounder is made a little easier if we eliminate every place that we know they will NOT be! Rocks and wrecks are out—although prime structure for many other fish, for flounder this is a no-no. Silt is out, too, as is grey, slimy mud and any mud devoid of tiny shell life, mollusks, or crustaceans is also out. This last statement just about sums it up: if there ain't any food for the flounder to eat, there just ain't going to be any flounder there.

The gravelly beaches of the North Shore are ideal flounder habitat—clean, fairly deep close to shore, and over-abundant in shell life. The beaches out east, such as Callahan's and Rocky Point, always give up some decent sized flounder; but that's a long haul from the Bronx, and we needed something a lot closer to the western end to keep us happy. Finding some place having the same desirable qualitites as the above-mentioned beaches is never easy.

We covered a twelve-ounce sinker with clay (the kind you find in kid's modelling kits) and tied it to fifty feet of heavy mono, and used it to get samples of bottom from likely looking locations. You can accomplish the same results by inspecting the mud that clings to your anchor. When you spot clam spat, grass shrimp, or minute worms—fish that area thoroughly, it should harbor flounder.

And if no flounder are immediately forthcoming, don't give up and leave. Stay at that spot and do a thorough job of chumming before you decide to move on to another likely location. The chum that seems to work best for us is mussels: either the regular black mussel or the ribbed bank mussel. Once firmly anchored over a likely looking spot, you can chum in any one of a number of ways. Try cracking and scattering some mussels around boat at regular intervals, or put some mussels in a burlap sack, smash 'em and lower the bag to the bottom, shaking it from time to time to release tiny tempting morsels through the mesh of the bag. The ideal thing to use is a weighted chum pot. The pots

make it easy to hold and dispense any type of chum. Bunker (great for fluke chum), crushed mussels, clam bellies, cat food, or whatever, their heavy weighed bottom not only brings the chum down to the bottom quickly and keeps it there where it will do the most good, but can also help to stir up the soft bottom when you give it a few bounces to dispense some chum. This stirring up of the bottom attracts flounder by piquing their curiosity over seeing the puffs of mud created, which usually also reveals dislodged bits of food for them to eat. Once they congregate under your boat, which is where the weighted pot usually stays, they're soon suckers for your worm-baited hooks.

Big flounder like a moving tide or fast current. Add this to their propensity for mussel beds, clean water, and a preference for depths of about fifteen or twenty feet, and you can start pinpointing prospective productive areas, using nautical charts, your depth recorder, and some common sense. Channels that bend around points of land are worth investigating. The deep water close to shore, with deeper pockets at the bends, the normally faster currents there-by, and the clean bottom scoured by these currents, all point to biggie territory.

Mattinecock Point boasts such advantages. Here the channel curls around the point proper, between the cement wall and the reef off the red buoy. Fish inside on the inner edge of the channel on high water, and outside, on the outer edge, at low water. Sit it out and chum heavily—you'll get fish, especially on an outgoing tide.

The west jetty off Fort Totten, facing the Throg's Neck Bridge is another big flounder hotspot—for all the same reasons that Mattinecock Point is. Here you can fish from the jetty proper, often standing shoulder-to-shoulder with early bass nuts who just may fool you by catching stripers when you thought they wouldn't be around for another couple of weeks yet.

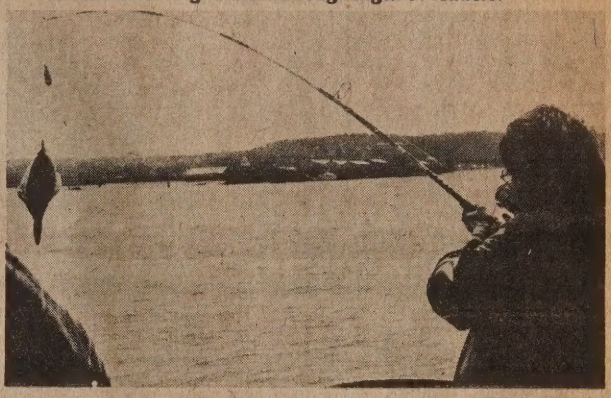
Don't limit your efforts to these two places either. Use a little imagination, a lot of ingenuity, and discover your own private spots by utilizing all the information freely given. And don't start out too late, or you may miss out altogether. It's better to be a little early, thus giving you a head start the next time out, at which time you might connect. Remember that you only have about a week, or maybe two at the most—so take advantage of it.

Sandworms are good flounder baits. Use hooks a little larger than run-of-the-mill flounder hooks. Chestertowns no smaller than size eight or Sproats no smaller than size six are good. They'll be small enough for flounder mouths, but not too big, and will stand up better than smaller hooks to the larger fish. Use a good sized piece of worm since you're not after the tiny flounders now. Worms about four or five inches long may attract larger fish more readily than tiny tempters. Let a goodly portion of the worm trail from the hook, keeping the barb and point clear. Try using fresh mussels—either by themselves or as a combination with a piece of worm.

Flounders, like humans, will show a marked preference for different foods at different times. Often a change of tide will evoke a change in appetite. Although hard to hook, try sticking the tiny black "heart" of shucked mussels first, then wrapping the stringy lips around the hook several times before finally piercing them. And if you don't catch a fish within fifteen minutes or so, remove the mussel and add it to your chum pot; it will be ashed out and devoid of the natural juices that whet flounder appetites, and should be replaced with fresh mussels at regular intervals.

Do not hesitate to try fresh clam baits either. Necks of soft shell or steamer clams, as well as slices of larger hard shell clams can also prove highly effective at times. Make certain that clams are fresh. Hard shell clams, such as skimmers, should be sliced into strips, utilizing the soft belly section to dangle from the end, as the slice is hooked two or three times. Soft clam necks should first be stripped of the black outer covering, and also sliced into thin strips.

The author's biggie rig: note small bucktail jig used as part of the tandem rig and extra long length of leaders.



Fred Fragano with a 1-lb. fish coming over the rail. Oyster Bay is in the background.

Eddie, the mate on the North Star, busy at work cleaning fish.

Whatever bait you use—worm, mussel or clam—should be hooked so that a goodly portion is left to trail from the hook, to wiggle enticingly, and to give those big flatties something to start chewing on, before they eventually swallow your bait. When tentative nibbles are first felt—relax and let 'em chew awhile. The bigger flatties will respond rather quickly after tasting that luscious trailing tempter, belting your hook with authority as they seek to swallow the whole thing. You can even tease 'em into doing just that by jigging your sinker on the bottom a few times, then raising it off the bottom slowly by lifting your rod tip about a foot or so. If any flounder are still undecided, this trick will make up their mind, as they will quickly grab that tasty tidbit that seems to be escaping.

If big flounder are your quarry, get going early in the season. If you wait for the more moderate days of late April, you may just start out too darn late. Brave the chill winds of March and remember that you'll only get this opportunity about one week every spring.

Flounder Bait Alternatives

by Dick Mermon

Nature provides her piscatorial species a variety of natural forage, especially winter flounders. This two-toned, flat-bellied bottom-dweller of saltwater finds great delight just wallowing in mud, or soft sediment. By manipulating a widespread tail and outer fins in a roller-coaster fashion in the soft Bay floor, it disrupts implanted minute creatures like seedling clams, mussels and scallops. These are but part of the native foods which they feed upon.

Usually fishermen acquire adult portions of such baits, the most popular being green mussels (also called bank or ribbed mussels). Should a substitute be required, the common black mussel is number one. It grows in mass clusters on rocks, bulkheads and bridge stanchions. These mussels can also be purchased from fish markets, or personally collected along shore lines (where permitted). Not only are these baits excellent for flounders, but come highly recommended for human consumption as well. If ribbed mussels look palatable as a delicacy because of size, do not even think about it. Their taste is bitter no matter how doctored they are with spices. Small clusters of black mussels are choice offerings as chum and is a must when flounder fishing. Clusters of these shiny shelled black mollusks are placed into the chum pot, or bucket and crushed accordingly, forming a stew of splintered shells, soft meaty flesh and aromatic juices.

Regular skimmer or sea clams are basic cut baits of winter flounders, but a healthy alternate here would be hard and soft clams. Since flounders work mud flats for regular clam seedlings and duck clams, they know the scent of this prey. Occasionally sliver cuts of these adult proxies produce better fish action. To a gourmet, it would be an unheard of act by serving these tasteful tidbits to fish, but there are times when a stand-in bait has an added advantage. On the other hand, fish fanciers who desire flounder fillet over clams casino, or steamers and garlic/butter sauce, would sooner feed the fish. It simply is which is desired the most, and by whom?

A natural forage that rarely ever feels the flounder hook's point is an oyster, even though they do make nonpareil contributions. In a pinch, its soft flesh and tasteful aroma even entice winter flatties. Again, it will be mind over matter as to which is the more preferred dish of the day: oyster, or flounder. Personally, I still have trouble swallowing the mollusk in its raw, unshelled state, but there is no hesitation when it comes to nipping at portions of stuffed flounder.

On occasion, bay scallops can be discovered in their natural form and is another bench warmer for the flounder bait team. These handsome shell morsels are not only a connoisseur's delight, but if obtained in any quantity can be both bait and appetizer. Unlike other mollusks, scallops have portioned bodies—one for humans and the other for fish. A hard, white muscle holding the two shells together is that which titilates human taste. The soft dark area, coated by a thin membrane, contains the motion and digestion system for a flounder's preference. Even the corrugated shells are crushed and used as chum. Hence, nothing goes to waste with this hard-to-come-by item.

Where there is soft, silty, muddy Bay floors, there are worm inhabitants therein. Sea worms of both types, tape worms and ribbon worms find magnifcent lodging in such bottom. Flounders in their finning gyrations uproot these resident creatures. From within this cloud of disturbed water, worms try to find an exodus, but the flounders not only see the prey but smell them from the secretion released. Therefore, pieces of blood, sand, or even tape worm are effective. A secondary for these salty marsh worms would be the common garden worm. Even though many jokesters have tried to devour earthworms, these, too, are best designed for utilization as fish food. Night crawlers are not only eminently productive in freshwater, but are profoundly fertile in the saltwater field also. Earthworms must be used in the whole form rather than piecemeal as with sea worms and they also bleach out rapidly when soaked in the brine. Still, they will replace a natural dweller of the flats.

A bait which is not considered in flounder fishing is sand, or grass shrimp. These are sanctioned out for the glorious tiderunners and bass with striped pajamas. But when a flounder does its thing in disrupting the bottom, everything—including shrimp and miniature sea lice—scurry for cover. The fact that one never finds any of these items in their digestive track does not indi-

Flounder baits come in a variety of shapes and sizes such as (top) scallop, bank mussel, cluster of black mussel, single black mussel. (Bottom) Sea clam, hard clam, soft clam, oyster.

cate a refusal of the bait. Shrimp are bottom walkers as well as swimmers. They like soft sand and silt banks; so do flounders. That makes them vulnerable to attack from a bait-sucking flounder that has a mouth just big enough to inhale a tiny shrimp.

With all these naturals at the angler's fingertips, I have been asked several times if rubber worms catch flounders? The answer is ... yes, ... and no. Yes, I have caught flounders on small, thin, two-and-a-half inch size rubber worms—but only under heavy chumming and bottom stirring. This causes a formation of murky water to exist, whereby the imitation worm is danced on bottom as though it were trying to escape from the film. The flounder at this time becomes engrossed with the lure's agitation and strikes without smelling it. In positioning a hook, the plastic worm is impaled through its entire body from tip to about one-quarter inch of the end. This section is allowed to hang below the hook's bend as a trailer piece.

When flounders are not stimulated into a feeding frenzy (and they do reach such a state of activity), a soft plastic worm of said size is useless by itself. I have danced a red, yellow and pink glow worm in front of their noses without success, only to have them turn away and inhale a natural mussel bait not three inches from the imitation worm. At such periods these fish are smelling a bait, leading me to believe the natural thing is still superior. But, by tipping the same hooked plastic worm with a tiny portion of sea worm just enough to camouflage the hook's point and barb, caught a flounder. Here, scent came into play. Hence, this is why I say, no ... I have not caught flounders on artificial worms. By even trying these same rubber worms saturated for six months in mussel juice, brought equal results. If the fish are activated into a foraging passion, the soaked artificial works, but for slow feeders, it must be crowned with a section of natural worm, clam, or mussel. The funny part of this experiment is that these same fish can be taken on hand-tied yellow, or orange fuzzy flies, danced in a similar manner. The other part which has been strange and without conclusion as yet, is that kernel corn used as chum is always found in the stomachs of flounders. Yet I have tried single kernels on a hook and am unable to catch a flounder this way. The only explanation I find is color draws their attention, but the natural movement of the corn along bottom is eliminated and the flounder then refuses the bait.

Natural baits are still the best enticers when flounder fishing, but substitutes may be required at times. When one type is unavailable, there is always another to flounder around with.

Clam tongs churn up the bottom, loosening all sorts of flounder goodies and produces a natural cloud of free flowing chum to stimulate the fish.

Even a night crawler will catch flounder when other sea worms are not available. They are used whole rather than cut into sections.

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Fishing Reports

MONTAUK

Captain Richard Rade of the **Marlin IV** reported that the codfishing is still slow, but on Sunday the fish caught were all green, the usual sign that a new body of fish is moving into the area. At the present time, there are no bergalls or dogfish in the area and even the setliners aren't doing too much with the cod. On Saturday, the boat fished south of block Island in 90 to 100 feet of water and found 25 cod for the 35 anglers aboard. Much better action was found at Cartwright on Sunday when 15 fishermen took 75 avering 9-10 lbs., with a few in the twenties.

Charter boat **Prowler** called to announce they have just repowered with twin diesels and are ready to roar for the season.

SHINNECOCK

Tom at **Speck's Bait and Tackle** reports very good flounder action for this time of the year for those fishing in Shinnecock Canal, either at the old bridge or by the locks. Flounder are up to 1½ lbs. and hitting on worms. Remember you can only fish properly when the locks are closed. Back bay areas such as Towd Point at the entrance to North Sea Harbor are starting to produce.

The **Capt. Clark** called to say that they will start one boat flounder fishing March 17, with March trips limited to weekends. Daily sailings will start April 1. On an experimental trip to Jamesport Saturday, Capt. Clark, Sr. and Jr., and two mates bagged 14 keeper flounder up to 1½ lbs., with mussel on the hook. Clark says he'll have mussels and clam available on the boat.

MORICHES BAY

East Moriches Bait and Tackle tells us that on Thursday, Ed Groskinsky and dad of Northport got between 150-200 keepers fishing bloodworms with clam chum in the Quogue canal, east of the Westhampton Bridge. Friday saw Bill of the shop, Tom Gonce and John Frame keep 68 out of 200 flounder. This was on bloodworms and corn combo on the hook, along with clam chum. Note that the fish would not hit either corn or bloodworm separately on the hook but found the combination of the two irristible. Saturday, Ed Henderson, brother Bob and Ray Hoffman had approximately 170 flounders, but keeping only 60. Best action was one hour

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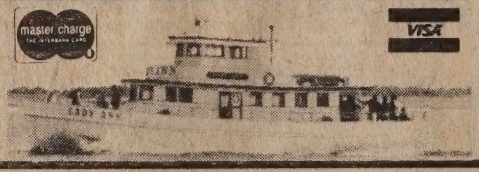

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before dead low.

Seatuck Cove Fishing Station called to let us know that all of the fishing stations in Moriches are opening Saturday, St. Patrick's Day.

Larry at **L & M Marine** had 4 boats out on Saturday and they each had between 50 and 60 flounder (keepers) with a lot of 2 lbers. mixed in. This was at buoy 54 at Quogue Canal on the flood with bloodworms and clam chum.

CAPTREE

Captain Speedy Hubert of the **Speedy VI** reported that the improved codfishing he had hoped for, never materialized. Henceforth, he will be sailing 7AM daily as "the flounder express to Heckscher."

Captain Rod Westerlind of the **Capt. Rod** was enthused about a decent showing of flounder on Saturday. The fishing was enough to get the season off to a start. Some fares had seven or eight nice size fish and the Captain felt that just a few more degrees in water temp are needed to get the fishing in full swing. Clam and worm bait fished in some of the deeper holes, was the ticket.

The Captain also knew that Captain Carlie Kennedy of the Joseph Fleet had about seventy flatties for seven or eight fares on Saturday.

CAPT. Neil on the charter boat **Lady Ann** called to say he sailed his last cod charter of the season last Sunday, taking a few cod in 72' of water on bait off Patchogue Beach. Neil says it looks like a great flounder season ahead, as most of the Captree boats that sailed for flounder on the weekend averaged about 100 fish per boat per day. Fish are mixed sizes and some also taken right off the Captree Pier.

BAY SHORE

Smokey's Bait and Tackle tells us he has heard that Heckscher State Park has been giving forth some flounder catches in the buoy 4 area on worm and mussel baits along with clam chum. Smokey's official opening is this Saturday, March 17., and will have all bait in stock by then.

Captain Walter Specht of the **Casey Lee** reports that he's back sailing again for the season starting March 16. He will be sailing Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays only and will resume daily sailings March 23. Walter says the flounder season looks good as a few private boats have been nailing good catches on the weekend off Heckscher, best on the morning tides.

BABYLON

Augie's Bait and Tackel tells us that Len Storch, Mike Augis and Steve Gleason each bagged a few flounder off the town dock this past week on an incoming tide with worms on the hook. Dolores says she will have bloodworms and mussels for the weekend.

SEAFORD

Ted at **Uncle Hermie's Fishing Station** in Seaford reports that despite bad weekend weather and a

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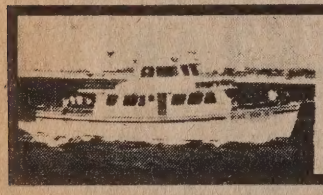

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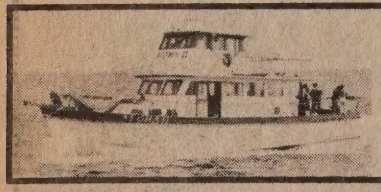

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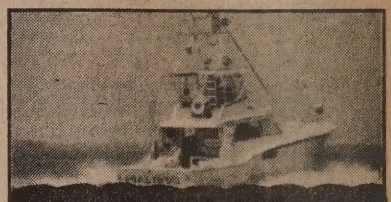

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rolled bottom, there were reports of some flounder pick at Four Corners on bloodworms and mussels on incoming tide.

Big Ed at **Shore Isle Marina** Tells us that a few flounder have been taken this past week on dyed clam and clam chum at the 1st Wantagh on the flood.

Lon Wanswer Bait and Tackle reports that 14 flounder were boated by one customer who fished locally in the bay with bloodworms and no chum. Lon said the fish were fair sized. There has been some action for just about all of his regular flounder customers, Lon says and there definitely are fish to be had. Lon says he will have worms on a regular basis from here on in.

FREEPORT

Hook, Line and Sinker Bait and Tackle, soon to be moving to larger quarters, tells us that several worm customers stopped back and reported catching flounder at the new waterfront park and also at the end of Woodcleft avenue. Jackie says a few hardy souls in private boats took a few flatties in Swift and Long Creeks. Catches were made on bloodworm or crab and as you probably know chum helps considerably.

Merrick Marine Tackle Center in Bellmore informs us that Frankie the Flea nailed five flounders in five hours of fishing, working East Bay with bloodworms and chum Saturday. Fish ran from ½ to ¾ lbs. The store will be carrying worms as of this weekend.

Captain Tony on the **Miss Freeport II** called to say he sailed Saturday and Sunday and caught a few fish at every drop, fishing the local areas of Sea Dog, Long and Swift Creeks. Sunday, believe it or not, was better than Saturday, despite Sunday's snow and rain. Worms and red dyed clam did it on incoming best. Tony is sailing daily and hopes to see you down there. His new boat is at the Poop Deck Dock.

Capt. Richie on the **StarStream II** gave his report of Friday's fishing with happiness, yet did not to stir up a lot of people's hopes. The boat had its best codfishing day of the season on Friday, with 18 fares taking over 200 cod that had been feeding on a huge school of sand eels. Richie says the catch was really super in numbers and sizes. Frank Daily of North Bellmore had a 59 lber. James Sanders of Far Rockway grabbed the pool with a 49 lb. 8 oz. cod. Hudson Anglers representative Dave Perlman and Art Blender hoisted a 48 lb. 8 oz. cod. Pete Lappart of Huntington Sstation had a 42 and 46 lber. There were six other fish from 40 lbs. up besides these. All fish were weighed in at Joe's Fish Dock on Woodcleft Ave. Richie says he was in the right place at the right time and he fished

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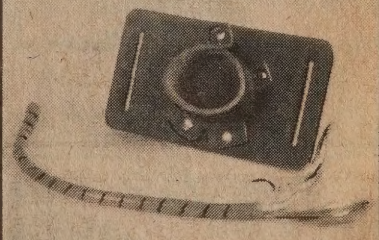

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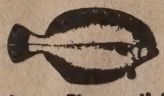

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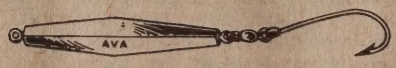

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on this huge sand eel biomass. These fish were migrating and feeding on sand eels and everything just fell into place. Twelve double-headers were gaffed up. However, fishing fell apart on the weekend, the boat had 9 fish on Saturday and one on Sunday with no sand eel readings on the machine. Richie admits he stumbled onto this super catch of cod and says please don't expect it to be duplicated by him this season, except through an extreme stroke of luck, as the bait is moving away rapidly.

The Capt. Al called to let us know that he is swinging over to flounder and by all indications, Al believes this should be a good season.

The charter boat **Fisherman** of the Freeport Boatmen's Assocsiation called to say that until mid-April, he will continue sailing charters out of Sand Harbor Marina, Pompano Beach, Florida. At that time, he will be bringing the boat back up to Freeport.

POINT LOOKOUT

Scotty's Marina reported no activity in this area and felt the weekend's miserable weather deterred most of the flounder faithful. They will have boats ready to go this coming weekend.

ISLAND PARK

Charlie Beckmann of **Beckmann's Tackle** could go back as far as last Thursday for a flounder report. One of his customers fishing from the Magnolia Pier in Long Beach, returned with an even dozen flatfish ffom 1/2 to 1 lb. taken on bloodworms. Due to Sunday's lousy weather, few souls pursued the quest for flounder fillets.

Captain Clem on the **Commodore** tells us he had 61 keeper flounder on Saturday, working the deep holes in Hog Channel at buoy 9. A few good size flatties at each drop. Clem says the water is still cold and catches will increase as it warms a bit. The fish are biting on mussels and clams, soft baits. Mussel/worm combos are working best.

JAMAICA BAY

Cross Bay Bait and Tackle reported some small flounder being taken from area bridges on worms.

A secret source in Canarsie reports that a hotspot for flounder this past week has been at the north and south channel bridges in the Howard Beach area. Fish are good sized and hitting worms and clam.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

The **Blue Sea III** fished for whiting east of the Mud Hole with good results. Catches ran in the 1/2 to a full 5-gal. pail per person with fish running in the 1½ to 3 lb. class. Whiting fishing in local waters remains slow.

Captain Tom of the **Pilot II** started its flounder season at the Navesink River on Saturday and did very well. Sandworms and mussels did the job on flounder in the 1/2 to 1 lb. range. Sunday's catches were good considering the adverse weather conditions.

The **Dorothy B** did not sail this past weekend, but will start flounder fishing on St. Patrick's Day at 8AM. The boat will be fishing in calm waters such as Jamaica Bay, Silver Hole and other flattie hotspots.

Stella Maris Bait and Tackle reports some flounder are starting to show up for private and open boats fishng the local grounds. Whiting has fallen off considerably. A very few cod are being picked by a few private boats. Flounder action should increase with a slight rise in the water temp.

KINGS PARK

Bob at **OK Bait and Tackle** (formerly Mae's Way Fishing Station) called to say he's opening on Saturday and will have his boats in the water for you.

HUNTINGTON

George Valentine of **Four Winds Bait & Tackle** reported that Larry and Lester Eckert fished Lloyd Harbor on the weekend and returned with 14 flounder from 3/4 to 1½ lbs. They returned anything under 3/4 lbs., keeping only filleting size fish. The two anglers used sandworms for bait and chummed with crushed mussels.

George knew that Bob Schneide of E. Northport, along with his sons Robbie and Jamie journeyed to the banks of sthe Quogue Canal on Saturday and returned with 28 keepers taken in one hour on worms.

There was also some bass activity at the power plant this past week. Some 3 to 7 lb. fish were taken by worm dunkers and casters using

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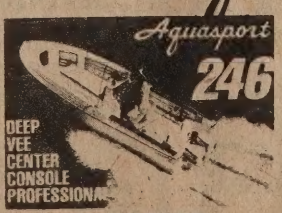

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Over 150 entries describe all aspects of seafood including Harvesting and Purchasing, Preparing, Storing & Preserving, Cooking & Nutrition (recipes), Contaminants, Identifying Species, and Technical Information. Each entry gives the author, title, publisher, publication number, pages and cost (many are free). Also included is a brief abstract of each publication's contents, a subject index and the complete addresses from which the publications may be ordered.

Copies of the **Seafood Sourcebook** may be ordered, at a cost of $1 per copy to cover postage and handling, from: New England Marine Advisory Service, New England Center for Continuing Education, Garrison Avenue, Durham, NH 03824.

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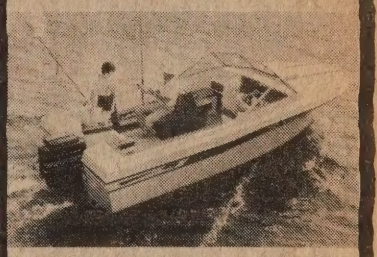

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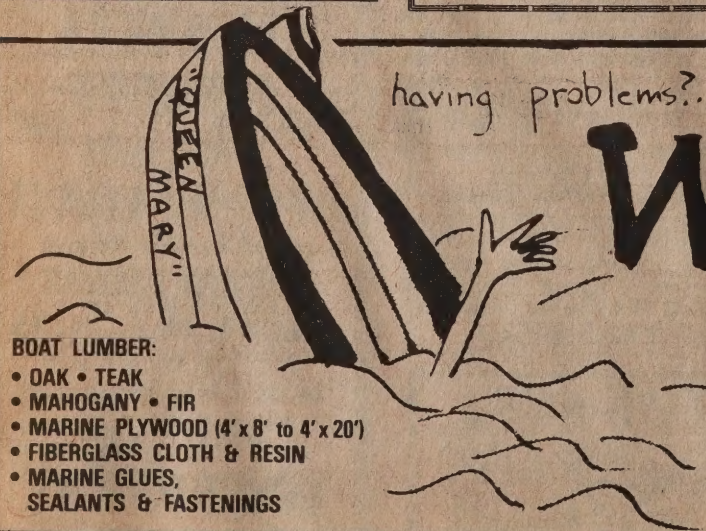

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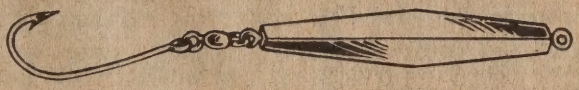

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HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEW-PORT AM	NEW-PORT PM	DATE
THUR.	8:37	9:00	9:29	9:44	9:19	9:34	10:12	10:29	11:54	–	–	12:04	8:42	8:58	3/15
FRI.	9:12	9:37	10:03	10:20	9:51	10:06	10:49	11:07	12:08	12:27	12:20	12:43	9:19	9:37	3/16
SAT.	9:49	10:14	10:41	10:58	10:24	10:40	11:30	11:47	12:43	1:08	12:57	1:22	10:01	10:19	3/17
SUN.	10:32	11:01	11:21	11:44	11:01	11:22	–	12:12	1:24	1:51	1:39	2:03	10:43	11:05	3/18
MON.	11:19	11:51	–	12:08	11:49	–	12:32	1:06	2:11	2:41	2:23	2:53	11:33	11:58	3/19
TUE.	–	12:14	12:35	1:02	12:15	12:44	1:25	2:04	3:02	3:36	3:14	3:49	–	12:29	3/20
WED.	12:51	1:19	1:36	2:08	1:13	1:50	2:27	3:11	3:57	4:38	4:14	4:54	1:01	1:35	3/21
THUR.	1:56	2:30	2:43	3:18	2:21	3:06	3:34	4:17	5:00	5:46	5:19	5:59	2:06	2:40	3/22

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES:

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	— 0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	— 0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	— 0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	— 0 12
Seaside Park	— 0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	— 0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	— 0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	— 0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	— 0 02
Rehoboth Beach	— 0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	— 0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	— 0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	— 0 38
Democrat Point	— 0 38
Coast Guard Station	— 0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	— 0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	— 0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	— 0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	— 0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	— 0 08
Herod Point	— 0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	— 0 20
Truman Beach	— 0 42
Falkner Island	— 0 13
Sachem Head	— 0 10
Branford Harbor	— 0 07
New Haven Harbor	— 0 08
Milford Harbor	— 0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	— 0 03
Saugatuck River	— 0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	— 0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	— 0 14
Montauk Inlet	— 0 25
Montauk Point	— 1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	— 0 33
Noank, Mystic River	— 0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	— 0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	— 0 10
Execution Light	— 0 06
Manhasset Bay	— 0 01
Hempstead Harbor	— 0 11
City Island	— 0 03
Rye Beach	— 0 28
Port Chester	— 0 09
Mamaroneck	— 0 08
New Rochelle	— 0 24
Davids Island	— 0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	— 0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	— 0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	— 0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	— 0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	— 0 08
Point Judith Harbor	— 0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	— 0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

3/2	6:34	5:50
3/7	6:27	5:57
3/12	6:19	6:02
3/17	6:10	6:08
3/22	6:02	6:13
3/27	5:53	6:19

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
3/28	3/5	3/13	3/21

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	**Major**	Minor	**Major**
Thurs.	5:20	**11:55**	5:45	—
Fri.	6:05	**12:20**	6:30	**12:45**
Sat.	7:00	**1:10**	7:20	**1:35**
Sun.	7:50	**2:00**	8:10	**2:30**
Mon.	8:45	**3:00**	9:10	**3:25**
Tues.	9:40	**3:55**	10:05	**4:20**
Wed.	10:35	**4:55**	11:05	**5:20**
Thurs.	11:35	**5:50**	—	**6:15**

FISHERMAN'S CLASSIFIED

To place an ad in *The Long Island Fisherman's* classified ad section, send in copy for the ad exactly as you wish it to read, along with your check or money order for the full amount. *(Sorry, no billing.)* Rates for non-subscribers are 25-cents per word, 30 word ($7.50) minimum. Subscribers of *The Fisherman* receive a discount if they include the number off their subscription label. Classified rates for subscribers are: 20 cents per word, 30 word ($6.00) minimum. Discounts for extended runs: 12 times, 5%; 35 times, 10%; and 50 times, 15%. to run a photograph with an ad, add $16.80 to the words.

BOATS & MOTORS

1979 JOHNSON OUTBOARDS
You won't believe our low, low prices, 2 - 235 h.p.'s. Ask about our 1978 leftovers. OUTBOARD MARINE SERVICE, INC., 24 Cottage Avenue, Bay Shore. 516-665-3885.

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40' USCG APPROVED DIESEL-POWERED CHARTER BOAT AND BUSINESS. USCG Lic. 34 passenger. Radar, Loran, VHF. Raytheon recorder; night lights. Walkaround deck. In service now. $10,000. 516-822-3653, after 6PM.

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PAIR CHRYSLER 440 Left and Right. Completely rebuilt. Fully freshwater cooled. 2-1/2 x 1 reduction gears 72 series. $5500 for the pair. 516-665-5599.

1977 MAKO 25', Johnson 200 h.p. CB, VHF, recorder, outriggers, downriggers; Bimini top; console and seat covers. Six rod holders; dual batteries. Slip for '79 season. Ex. cond. 516-581-7468. After 6PM. $10,900.

1974 CHRIS CRAFT 22' 4" TOURNAMENT FISHERMAN with 200 h.p. 307Q Inboard Engine; trim tabs; VHF radio; compass; depth finder. Bimini Top, Navy top; Porti-pot and more. $8500. 516-360-0589 after 6PM.

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25' LYMAN BASS BOAT, 1977 FWC Chrysler. Ritchie compass; Ross D.R.; stern tiller; Morse controls. Navy top. Big igloo fish box; head; rod holders; life preservers; anchor; 400' line. Dual bilge pumps and batteries. Ex. cond. $3000. 516-799-7973.

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19' CENTER CONSOLE. Glass on Wood. '75 Johnson 70 h.p. engine. Winterized; perfect. $1800, includes bumpers, anchor, cushions. Eves: 212-457-4057.

1978 GRADY WHITE 20' 5" GULFSTREAM Cuddy Cabin. Walk-around deck. 170 h.p. Merc I/O #470 Freshwater cooled; white line recorder; VHF radio. Head; night lights; CG pkg.; covers. Much more. Used 50 hrs. Call: Days 212-679-1800 X. 224; Nights 212-528-1908.

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SERIOUS FISHERMEN ONLY. Totally rigged inshore/offshore; 11' 3" beam. Twin 351K Chris, FWC; tower. Upper & lower stations. MINT CONDITION. LONG list extras & equipment. $25,000 FIRM. Days: 212-760-0362. Eves: 212-689-5275.

1977 19' SEAWAY SKIFF Maine-built. All glass. 1977 70 h.p. Evinrude. Approx. 30 hrs. Side console; CB; Fish box; compass; anchor. Excellent condition. Very economical. Trailer. $3750. Days: 212-675-6688. Eves: 516-935-5359.

20' MIDLAND—Custom Built. Completed late 1976. 70 Evinrude. Built-in 28 gal. tank; stainless steel bow & grab rails. Mahogany rub & splash rails. Center console; depth flasher; radio; anchor; life jackets. Rod holders and racks. Storage lockers; Teleflex steering. Shoreline Galv. trailer. $6000. 516-267-6721.

1976 23' MAKO, 1976 Evinrude 200 h.p. 1976 E-Z Load galvanized tandem trailer. ALL MINT CONDITION. CB; custom console; head, auto. bilge. Rod racks; rod holders. Many extras. 212-833-7087. $8300.

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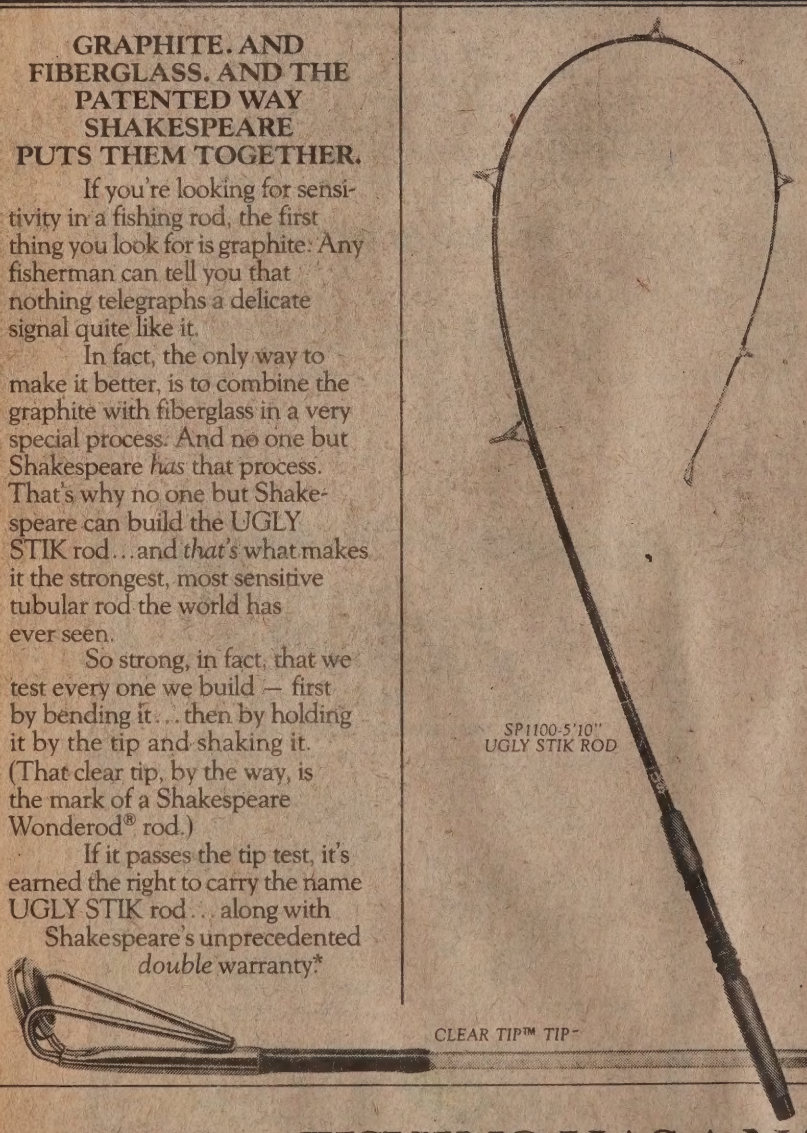

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